

TODAY'S WEATHER: Fresh East winds, gradually moderating.
Fair.
1 p.m. Observations: barometric pressure 1013.0 mbs, 29.94 in; temperature 77.5 deg. F; dew-point 71; relative humidity 81; wind direction ESE; wind force 17 knots.
High water: 4.1 ft. at 5.10 a.m. (Saturday). Low water: 7 in. at 0.32 p.m.

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SOLE AGENTS: NANKANG CO. (HONGKONG)

The Hongkong Telegraph.

VOL. III NO. 112

FRIDAY, MAY 14, 1948.

Price 20 Cents

JEWS TIGHTENING GRIP ON

HONGKONG
AT BIF

PALESTINE

Arab Surrender Of Jaffa

ZERO HOUR NEAR

Jerusalem, May 13.—Jewish forces tonight tightened their grip on Jerusalem and the Palestine coastline as Britain's mandatory reign neared its official end at midnight tomorrow. Jewish troops will occupy the Arab port of Jaffa this afternoon, while Jewish militia men are preparing to take over the Holy City on the heels of the departing British.

Haganah forces are already moving into Jaffa ready to occupy all strategic points at zero hour. The Jaffa agreement gives the Jews full control of this all-Arab city—from which most of the inhabitants fled during the recent Arab-Jewish fighting. The Arabs will hand over all arms and ammunition to the Jews. Haganah will be responsible for law and order. A Haganah representative will direct the civil administration with the advice of the Arab Emergency Council. The military clauses of the agreement were kept secret.

The tension throughout Palestine mounted with renewed Arab invasion threats. Egyptian press reports from Beirut said Arab regulars would march into Palestine on or after Saturday. Fresh Egyptian military units were stated to have moved up to the Palestine border in last-minute "attack" preparations.

Egyptian volunteers were reported to be already in action against Haganah 75 miles inside southern Palestine, besieging Jewish settlements.

Reuter dispatches from Damascus and Baghdad tonight reported new Arab moves in readiness for "zero hour." From Baghdad, the Regent of Iraq, Emir Abdul Ilah, hurried to Amman, the desert capital of Transjordan, to meet King Abdul Ilah, his political and military leaders.

Arshad Umari, the Iraqi Minister of Defence, and General Salih Said, Chief of the Iraqi General Staff, now in Damascus, will join the Regent in Amman.

NEW SYRIAN CABINET

Syria is expected to form a new 12-minister Coalition Government in the next 24-hours to "give uni-

animity" to her future actions on Palestine.

The new Cabinet will include two main political parties—the Constitutionalists and the Nationalists. On Syria's southern borders, civilian traffic was curtailed to persons holding special passes. All Syrians were warned by radio today to carry identity cards.

It was learned from a reliable source in London tonight that Britain will not recognise the Jewish State which is almost certain to be proclaimed from Tel-Aviv when the British mandate ends at midnight on Friday.

Britain's attitude would be the same, it was disclosed, over the proclamation of an Arab State over all or part of Palestine, but there is less certainty in London whether the Arabs propose such a move, or whether they will wait to see how the military situation develops.

It is believed highly probable Arab regulars will immediately move into Palestine, among them units of the Transjordan Arab Legion and the Egyptian and Iraqi Armies.

British troops will not intervene unless their lines of evacuation are affected.

Britain, it was authoritatively stated, will send back to Transjordan before tomorrow midnight those Arab Legion troops who have been serving in Palestine under British command, but it is expected such units will immediately afterwards re-enter Palestine under King Abdulil.

JEWS IN CONTROL

With the occupation of Jaffa, the Jews now control all important coastal points, except for the British Haifa escape route.

The appointment of a Jewish commander was expected, it was reported from Tel-Aviv tonight. The surrender of Jaffa, where there are said to be still 4,000 Arabs, was discussed by Jewish and Arab representatives yesterday.

The Arab Liberation Army declared in a communique from Damascus today the Jewish forces had killed and wounded in the roadblock battle around Bab Al Ward, 14 miles from Jerusalem, on the road to Tel-Aviv.

The communique claimed that among the killed was the "Commander-in-Chief" of the Jewish forces. It added that three armoured squadrons were destroyed and booty included six armoured wireless cars, eight transports, 350 rifles and machineguns, and a large quantity of equipment, ammunition and grenades.

Several ammunition dumps were exploded under direct hits from our artillery," the communique said. "Reconnaissance skirmishes are proceeding in the Tulkarm area."

(Continued on Page 5)



HONGKONG'S RICE ALLOCATION

125,000 Tons For The Year

Washington, May 13.—The International Food Emergency Council intends to allocate Hongkong 125,000 tons of rice for the year, of which 70,000 tons are allocated for the first six months.

Rice authorities of the International Emergency Food Council estimated more than 3,100,000 tons of rice will be available this year for rice-short nations.

A substantial amount of this will be allocated to the Orient.

The Council is nearing its final decisions on suggested allocations for the year. They are expected to be announced soon.

There will be about 30 allocations, including all rice claiming countries except those in Europe. European nations will be dealt with later and separately.

The United States asked the Council to allocate 232,000 tons to Japan. It was understood the Council feels the former enemy nation was not entitled to rice as long as other claimants were not fully supplied. It was also understood the Council felt the U.S. would meet Japan's grain requirement with wheat and other available cereals.

India was down for the largest allocation. It is at present set at 825,000 tons, compared to a request

East Indies are expected to produce about 200,000,000 bushels of rough rice this year, but that it will be all consumed domestically.

The estimate said it is not high grade rice. Another factor against exporting East Indies rice, the estimate said, was the increasing population of the Islands and political uncertainties.

"A BAD CASE"

Some rice experts said the Philippine request and allocation was "a bad case." They said the Philippines lacked rationing and price control, "making it difficult" accurately to ascertain the amount the Islands need. These sources also said the Philippines reexported part of its last year's allocation, "thereby making a profit in dollars from pound currency purchases."

A major question remaining before the Council's rice officials is which surplus nation will supply which deficit nation. These decisions are important to the claimants as rice prices vary in each supplying nation.

These decisions may cause changes in projected allocations if any deficit nation feels the price level in its supplying nation is beyond the claimant's purchasing power.

The Council's rice committee and the Council itself are working energetically to make final decisions as soon as possible.—Associated Press.

Release Of War Criminals Outcry

Shanghai, May 14.—Joining in the cries of protest which have arisen at the release of former Japanese Maj-Gen. Kinoshita, wartime head of the Japanese Gendarmerie in Shanghai, and former Sgt-Maj. Yoshika, his assistant in notorious Bridge House, a local resident has written a letter to Mr Winston Churchill, expressing the hope that the crimes of these offenders will not go unpunished.

The writer, whose name was not divulged, said "guilty men have paid the penalty in Europe and elsewhere for far less than these two arch devils. We all wonder on what possible grounds the Attorney General could have approved the release of Kinoshita and Yoshika from British custody in Hongkong while the blood of many Britishers, not to mention thousands of Chinese and other nationals, remains on their hands."

He ended the letter "will in some small measure augment the ammunition that you and all you stand for so sorely need today."—Reuter.

This picture shows the highly attractive stall which represents Hongkong at the British Industrial Fair now being held in London. Visitors to the stall are said to have been tremendously impressed with the wide range of goods on view.

Oil Well Goes "Berserk"

DANGER OF FIRES

Edmonton, Alberta, May 13.—The Alberta Government ordered all 60 oil wells in the vast \$300,000,000 Leduc oilfield to close down today as emergency crews sought to control a "berserk" well spraying black oil over a radius of two miles.

The Alberta Government ordered the closing of the oil wells, thus halting all production for fear of possible fires from the gushing oil. Experts said it would be at least three weeks before production could be resumed. They estimated total potential losses at more than \$3,000,000.

Aircraft were ordered to stay away from the field lest engine sparks set off a disastrous explosion. The oil covered 40 acres of the field. The well was estimated to be belching the equivalent of 10,000 barrels of oil daily, roughly the combined production of the entire field.—Reuter.

Russia Says 'No' Again

Danube Discussion Proposal Rejected

Danube, May 13.—The Soviet Union is understood to have rejected a British proposal for preliminary four-power talks on the future control of navigation on the Danube before a full conference of interested powers is held in Belgrade.

It was officially stated today, in answer to inquiries, that a Russian note had been received here, replying to the British suggestion that the United States, the Soviet Union, Britain and France should first meet in Washington.

When Britain proposed this meeting, she accepted in the same note to Russia, the earlier Soviet proposal that a conference of the Danube riparian powers, the United States, Britain and France should be held in Belgrade in the immediate future.

By a decision of the Council of Foreign Ministers on December 7, 1946, it was originally agreed to hold a Danube conference by March 15.

The United States then proposed a delay until the end of this year.

AUSTRIA'S POSITION
It now appears from the Soviet reply to the British note that Russia is still anxious to press on with a full conference in Belgrade.

The position of Austria, who is a Danube riparian power, in any Danube conference, depends officially on the signature of the Austrian peace treaty.

The Council of Foreign Ministers ruled that Austria should sit in the Danube conference provided that the Austrian State treaty was concluded in the meanwhile.

Whether, in view of the delays in signing the Austrian treaty, the four great powers would agree to her being represented in any Danube talks, is not clear.

The Western powers would certainly be in favour of such a course provided that the Soviet Union was willing.—Reuter.

MR TRUMAN IS NOT HOPEFUL

Washington, May 13.—President Truman said today his hopes for peace had been in no way increased by the recent United States Soviet exchanges.

The fundamental differences between the two countries remained unchanged by the whole incident, the President said.

He was prepared to meet Marshal Stalin if he would come to Washington. He denied having received any direct message from Marshal Stalin recently and added that he did not expect to receive any.—Reuter.



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Emergency Mayor For Jerusalem

Lake Success, May 13.—The United Nations today announced that Harold Evens, of Philadelphia, lawyer and member of the American Friends Service Committee, has been delegated "Emergency Mayor" of Jerusalem in conformity with the plan to succeed British rule in Palestine. The British mandate ends on May 15.—United Press.

CUSTOMS STATION ATTACKED

4 Officers Killed, Six Wounded

Four Chinese Maritime Customs men were reported killed and six wounded in a battle with bandits which attacked the Customs station at Shatau on Wednesday night.

Shatau is on Deep Bay, not far north from the border from Lau Fau Shan, the scene of an abortive bandit hunt by Hongkong police and troops last week.

The bandits, numbering over 100, attacked the station about 9 p.m. on Wednesday. Hand grenades and other explosives were hurled into the building, which was partially wrecked.

The Customs employees put up stiff resistance, and after about three hours the bandits were driven off. Full details are not yet available, but it is ascertained that the wounded have been sent to the Kowloon Hospital for treatment.

BOMBERS FOR CHINA

Shanghai, May 14.—Eight thousand tons of cargo, including C-47 bombers, Mosquito bombers and a large quantity of arms and ammunition, arrived here last night aboard the St. Thomas, vessel of the Canadian Asiatic Lines, from Montreal.

Included in the cargo was a shipment of steel rails. The consignment was bought by China under the terms of the credit agreement concluded between the two countries.—Reuter.

EDITORIAL

The End Of A Mandate

WITHIN a few hours Britain will have surrendered her mandate over Palestine and passed to the United Nations one of the heaviest and gravest responsibilities of the century. The task which Britain set herself more than 20 years ago has not been wholly accomplished, yet, in spite of many tribulations, much of a constructive nature has been done. As Mr Attlee has said, the Palestine administration, though faced with the most intractable problems, rewarded with baseless calumnies and imputations of partiality, often in personal danger, have established a tradition of loyal public service which should be of lasting value to whatever authorities succeed them. This is not too high a tribute to pay to the men and women of the British Administration in the Holy Land, whose work has been made doubly difficult during the mandatory period by fluctuating policies and directives from Whitehall. Although the fundamental aims of the British mandate have never varied—the amicable realisation of legitimate Jewish and Arab aspirations within the Holy Land—circumstances have constantly arisen to make necessary a temporary deviation from these high aims. Both Jews and Arabs have suffered from the excessive influence of extremists, whose idea of peacefully settling differences of opinion and aims is to use as much violence as possible. Today the Jewish extremists are in control and the mandate comes to an end with nothing in sight but bloodshed and more violence.

All of the constructive work of the Palestine Administration over the past quarter of a century is in danger of being destroyed, while peaceful relations between Jews and Arabs cannot now be conceived even as a remote possibility. The mandate is being handed over to the United Nations as it should be. This organisation was created, among other things, for a task of this nature, and if it fails to carry it out, it will irretrievably lose all prestige and public confidence. Hitherto world opinion regarding Palestine has centred itself by either criticism or approval of the British administration and the manner in which the mandatory power has sought to settle the Holy Land problem. Today, public opinion must devote itself to the task of convincing both the Jews and Arabs that in their present senseless conflict they are endangering the peace of the world. World opinion is the voice of the United Nations; it must be mediatory not partisan. While recognising that both Jews and Arabs have legitimate aspirations, it must also impress upon them that resort to violence cannot achieve their aims, but can serve only to spread misery and hatred within and even without the frontiers of the Holy Land. The world, as represented by the United Nations, becomes the new mandatory power over Palestine, and it is for Jews and Arabs alike to recognise and accept this authority. Failure to do so may well mean that Palestine becomes a cockpit from which will emerge a conflagration engulfing the entire universe.

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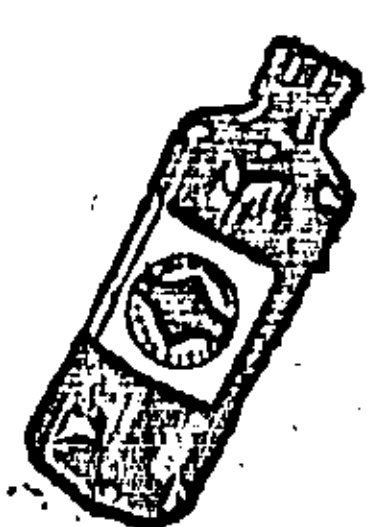


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FOR YOUR AFTERNOON WEAR

By ELEANOR ROSS

THE rooms have been designed with plenty of figurines, and paintings.

A hand-painted scenic paper, done in Pekin, is used for three walls of the foyer, with the fourth wall done in antique mirror with set-in brackets for figures and figurines. Dominating the exquisite living room is a circular couch quilted in gray. One long expanse of wall is broken by a pair of mural-decorated four-fold screens, that form a background for the sofa and a table that holds beautiful figurines.

There are three handsome Regency type cabinets with beautiful brass inlay and gridded doors. Rough textured fabrics and striped satins lend texture interest. Everywhere are exquisite bits of Ming, porcelains, jade, alabaster and crystal.

Practical Idea

Something new in wall-covering appears in the dining room. Vinylite is one plastic that one could never imagine on a wall, but there it is, and very good, too! It is a practical idea, for it washes clean with that well-known damp rag, and is a nice idea for a simple or a luxurious setting. The colour is bottle green, and it looks like leather.

There is one very beautiful bedroom. It has three walls done in Chinese floral patterned wallpaper, while the niche on the fourth wall is painted a delicate pink. Easy chair and chaise are upholstered in pink silk damask. The spread and canopy of the four-poster bed are of pink damask lined with almond green taffeta.

A New Shade

Throughout the model house there is much use of a new shade, a sort of orange with a delicate coral tinge. It is used for handsome leather chairs in the morning room as well as for some leather living room chairs.

There are all sorts of fascinating pieces of furniture in the display, including an eighteenth century "Benu Brumel" table, a throwback to the era when it was the male that was the gaudy dresser. The two sections of the top flip up and out to form extension shelves. One side has all sorts of complex boxes, ringholders and secret compartments, while the other has holes into which fit a washbowl, jars and bottles. A mirror pulls up from the back. Behind two doors in the cabinet below are open shelves in groups and a tier of drawers.



IN keeping with the soft, feminine, pretty fashions that grace this season, is the afternoon frock in pastel toned silk, a nice choice. Delightful detail marks this pretty design, model of pale blue crepe. A soft bow and stirring add interest to the shoulder line. A wide band of shirring and a series of soft, self bows grace the hipline and hold the front fullness of the skirt.

Clean Without Soap

British scientists have discovered a method of cleaning fabrics without the use of soap or similar detergents. This method is based on ultrasonics, a section of the science of electronics.

Very high frequency pressure waves are generated by a transducer which is a means of converting electrical energy into pressure waves—water waves in this case. The transducer can be put in one's pocket.

It is stressed that this discovery is still in the research stage and that no apparatus has yet been made for market.

SLUMBER SONG



By ALICE ALDEN

THE feeling of luxury that fine, piping used in confetti-like pro-handmade lingerie engenders fusion for the bodice and for the is a sheer delight. Ready for perky cap sleeves. Fashioned of sweet slumber on a summer night is silk crepe it is cut on high-waisted this handsome gown, designed by lines as are so many of the newer, clever Yolande. We like the bias smarter nightgowns.

RED RYDER

Averting Suspicion

BY FRED HARMAN



Don't Let Hair Look Sick



A thorough brushing of the hair at least once a day is a "must" in your beauty routine.

By HELEN FOLLETT

IT often happens that good beauty material goes to waste. For instance, there is the woman who has glorious hair that is abundant, yet it looks sick and depressed. The shafts lack luster because they are not shampooed often enough. Tresses are arranged and old way. Perhaps the permanent has got all tired out; little whips and scolding looks appear here and there. That is unfair to other human beings who have to look at it. That there are many women of this type is proved by a survey of the heads of a matinee audience.

There are others who are clever at hair arrangement, but give never a thought to scalp hygiene. If the scalp is not kept scrupulously clean and in healthy condition, the hair is under a handicap. It is well worth the time and the money for any woman to have a course of scalp treatments twice a year. These treatments consist of the application of stimulating tonics, massage with experienced fingers, thorough brushing.

The hair, like any part of the human machine, is subject to ill health. It can go into a state of depression because of lack of sleep, or nervous tension, or malnutrition. Whatever promotes the general health, helps the topknot to stay young and lovely. When women realize that the temple of beauty is built on a foundation of vitality and well being they will give more thought to diet, exercise, outdoor life, and get longer hours of sleep.

No woman is so rushed that she cannot brush her hair at night.

A five-minute scalp friction is excellent. Spread your fingers and thumbs over your head, pick up the flesh and roll it, do rotary motions, especially along the nape line to rouse the blood streams there.

BOYS' AND GIRLS' MAGAZINE

General Tin Was Very Brave

—But Not Brave Enough to Fight a Volcano—

By MAX TRELL

"DID you ever meet a giant?"

Knarf, the shadow-boy with the turned-around name, asked. "Did you ever really meet one?"

General Tin, the tin soldier, to whom Knarf was speaking, stood tall and straight, with his musket over his shoulder, beside the playroom door. For a moment he seemed to look surprised. Then he slowly nodded.

"You met a giant, General?"

"Yes, I did."

"Was he as big as giants are supposed to be?"

Even Bigger

"He was even bigger... yes, he was the biggest giant you could ever meet anywhere."

"Oh, and were you afraid?"

"I might have been," General Tin said slowly. "Only, when I met this giant he was asleep."

"Asleep?"

"Fast asleep. And he had been sleeping," General Tin went on, "for hundreds and hundreds of years. When he was asleep, no one was afraid of him—not even the smallest children. They ran up and down his sides and played games. But when he was awake..."

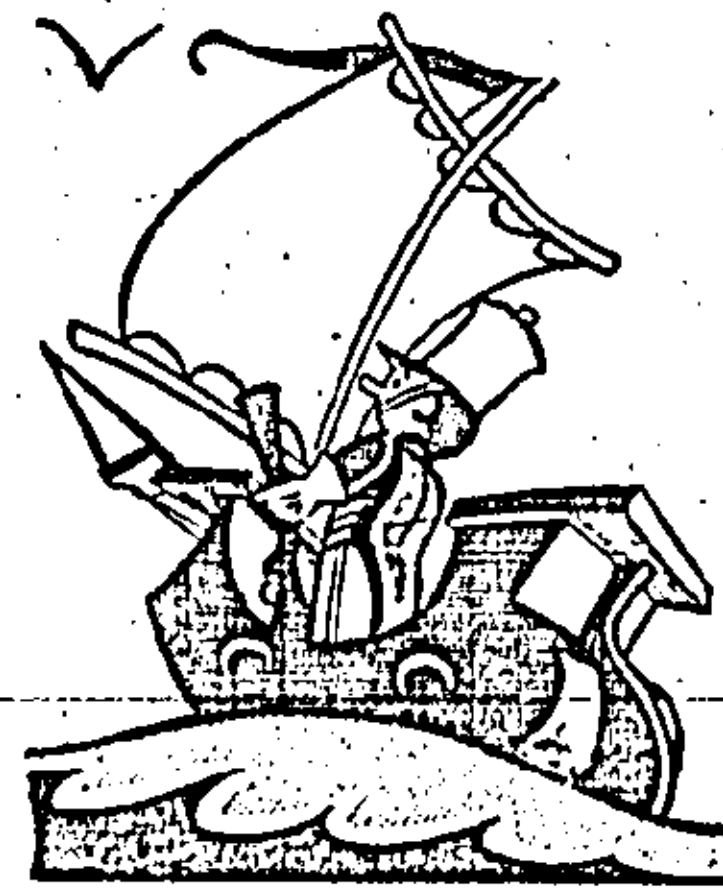
Breathed Smoke

"—when he was awake, he was a terror. He breathed out smoke and fire. Then everyone ran away from him. Everyone was afraid."

Knarf asked General Tin how he had first met this giant and where the giant lived.

"He lived in a far-off land, many miles away from here," the General continued. "I sailed in a ship for days and days. And then one morning I saw him, even though the ship was still far away. I could make him out lying crouched on the ground. He was smoking—and his snores sounded like the rumble of thunder."

"Oh!" said Knarf.



General Tin sailed off to conquer the giant.

"He was so big that, even lying down, his head and his shoulders were hidden in the clouds."

"Did you come very close to him?"

"Yes. I came right up to him. I climbed up his sides. And when I reached his head I found that he was sleeping with his mouth wide open."

"My goodness! What did you do?"

Into His Mouth

"I crept up very carefully and looked into his mouth. I looked down inside him. And I saw smoke and red flames and melted rocks."

"Melted rocks! Oh!"

"That's what this giant ate—rocks and stones and boulders! He ate whole mountains!"

"And did you wake him up? Did you fight him?"

General Tin shook his head. "You don't wake these kind of giants up, Knarf. You're glad when they go asleep. Because no one can fight giants who breathe out smoke and fire and melted rocks. No, I just saw him, and climbed up to the top of him, climbed right down again, and sailed away."

"What was this giant's name?"

Knarf asked after a moment of silence.

"Volcano," answered the tin soldier.

HARMLESS

'GAGS'

A "snake in the bottle" can easily be made by wrapping a length of springy brass wire closely around a broom handle. Then cover the spring loosely with a green cloth to give it the appearance of a monstrous green reptile. Bottle your snake in a jar of convenient size which has a metal screw-top. Paste white paper around the outside of the jar and label it "peanut brittle." Now you are ready for a generous hand-out.

Here is a simple trick that is sure-fire at home or at school. Fasten a handkerchief to the floor with a long thumb tack. Place it close to a chair if possible. It always looks more natural and innocent there. Then watch the fun when some one stoops to pick it up. This trick can be varied by using other articles such as a letter, a glove, a scarf or an old purse.

And if you are looking for a trick gadget, make a combless comb. Take an ordinary vest pocket comb and dip it in varnish. Let the coating dry, then give it a second dip. Dry again in warm air and you have a comb which looks like the real thing although it will positively refuse to comb anything, least of all hair.

Rupert helps Dr. Lion—37



Taking Rupert for a final scramble to a small pinnacle of rock the Wise Old Goat points at the strange machine. "You are quite right," he says. "That thing looks like a magnifying-glass because it is a magnifying-glass! I put it there so that, when the clouds roll away, it can follow the sun round the sky. It catches lots of sunshine and sends it into that funnel behind and then down into the middle of the mountain." "But what happens to it then?" gasps Rupert.

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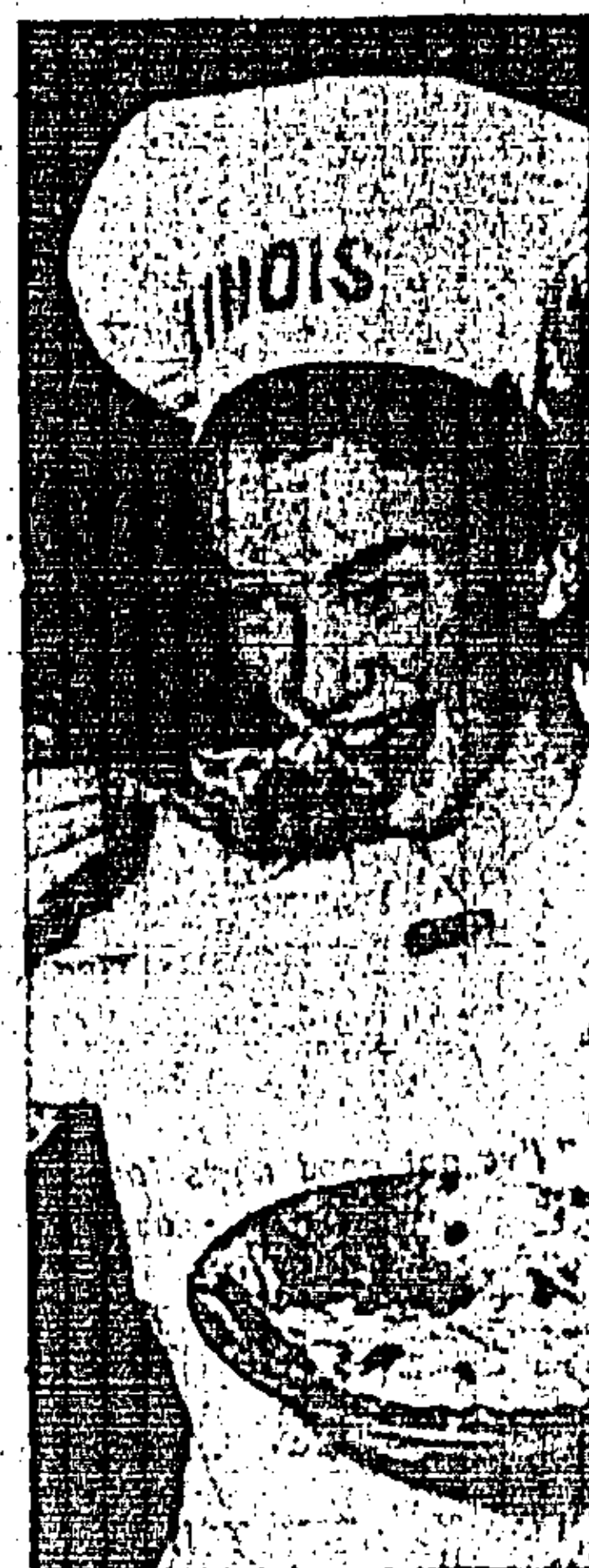
WORLD NEWS IN PICTURES



FRANCO CELEBRATES—With a tassel swinging at his side, General Francisco Franco receives the salutes of the Falange Youth organisation during ceremonies marking the ninth anniversary of the entry of his forces into Madrid and Valencia during the Spanish Civil War. The ceremony was at the Palace of El Pardo in Madrid.



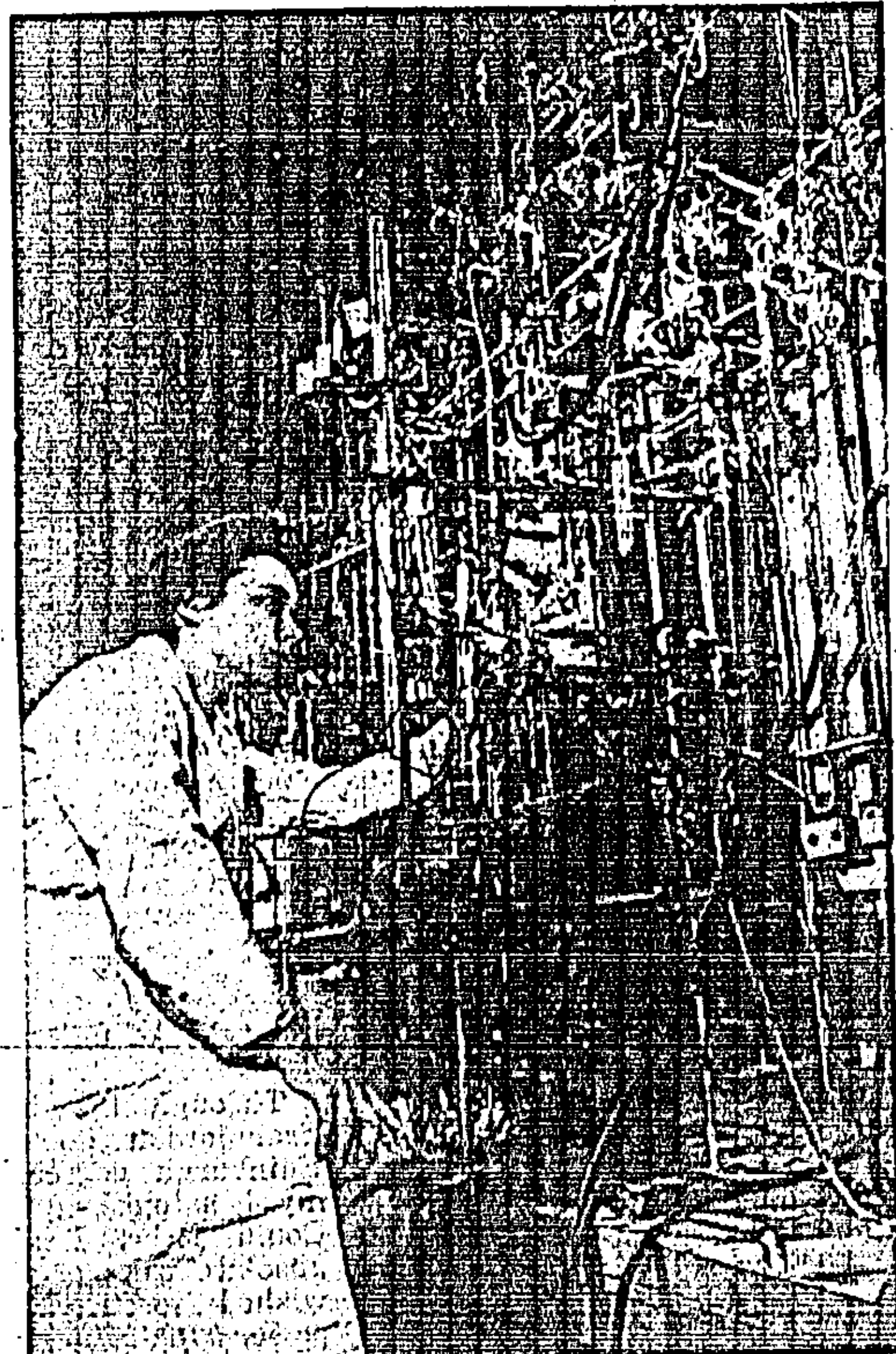
AND IT'S ALL MINE—It may have been a "jinx plane" to Milton Reynolds, but pilot William Odum shows how he feels about it at San Francisco. Reynolds said he lost \$250,000 in sponsoring the ill-fated attempt to find a Chinese mountain higher than Mt. Everest. Reynolds gave the plane to Odum.



CHERRY PIE QUEEN—Valeria Johnson, 17, Chicago high school student, knows a good thing when she tastes it. So did the judges who awarded her the first prize in the annual cherry pie baking contest.



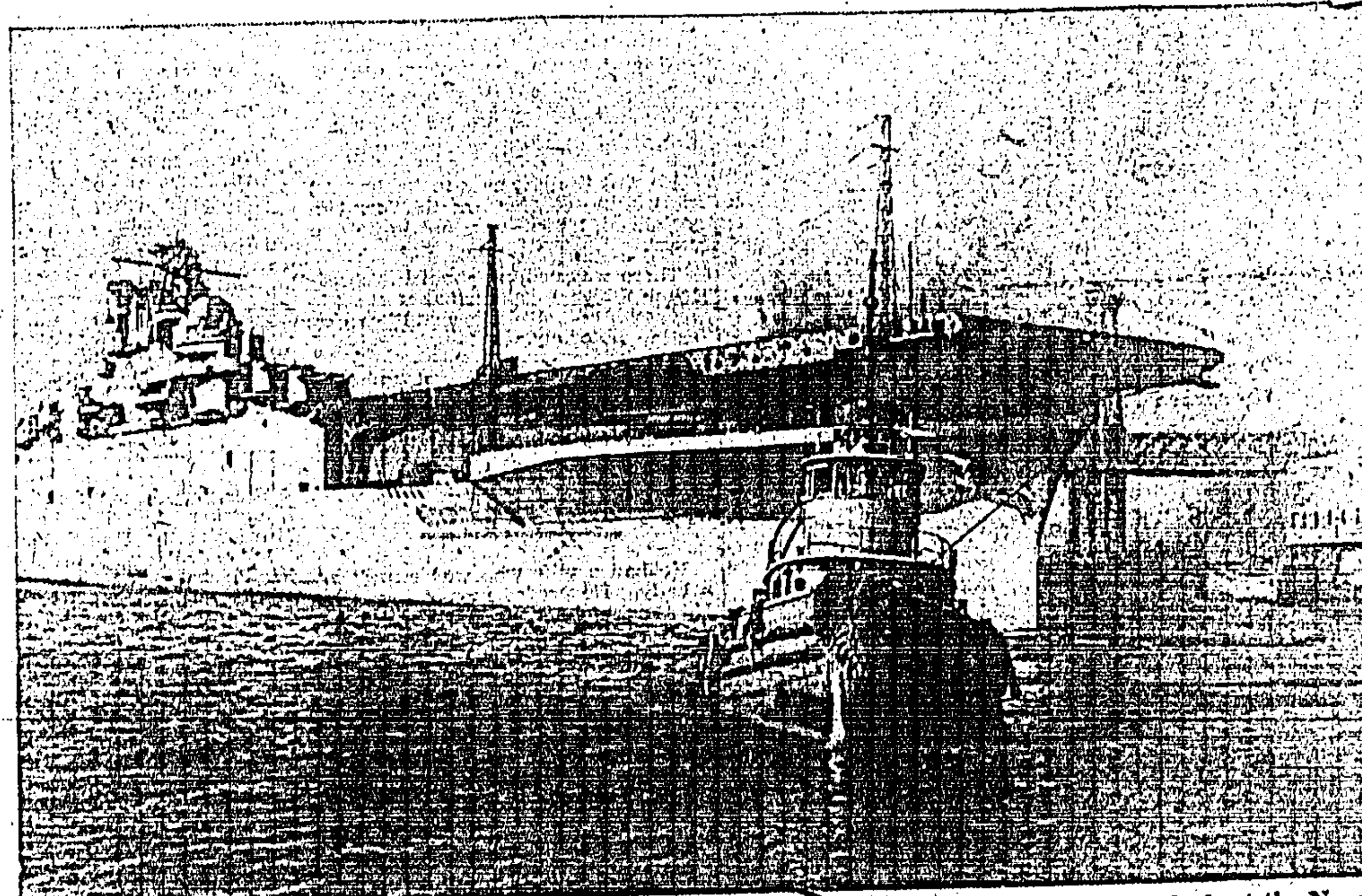
A LITTLE UNHAPPY—Captain of the Cunard White Star Liner Parthia, Robert G. Thelwell, with the somewhat distressed Cromar children, Wendy, three (left), and her brother, John. They hold scrolls presented to them on the maiden voyage of the vessel from Aberdeen to New York.



LABORATORY MAZE—Charlotte Wray, a Pittsburgh lab technician, needs all this apparatus to precipitate a sample of gasoline produced from coal. Radioactive isotopes are used to trace the process.



WHAT A MAN—At four months, Danny Gilmer of Memphis, Tennessee, stands and walks alone with only the slightest assistance. Danny, who has been sitting straight up since he was one month old, weighs 15 pounds, has broad shoulders and a straight back.



IN FOR "SPRING CLEANING"—The aircraft carrier USS Wasp moves slowly towards its dock at the Navy Yard in Brooklyn, where it will get a "spring cleaning." The job will take until July 9. The Wasp, a Pacific veteran, is now a part of the U.S. Atlantic Fleet reserve, but even reserve vessels are given periodic overhauls to keep them in shape.

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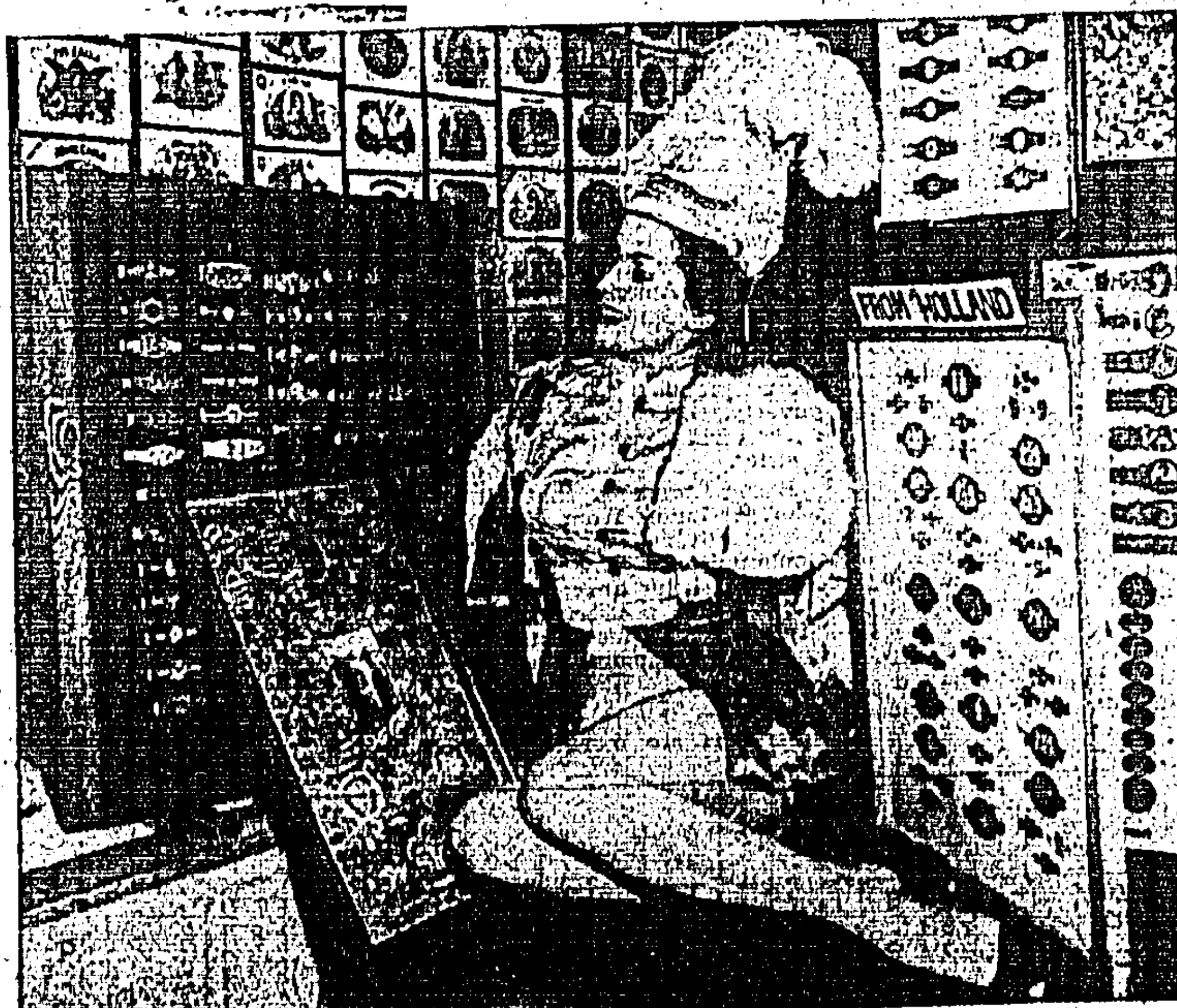
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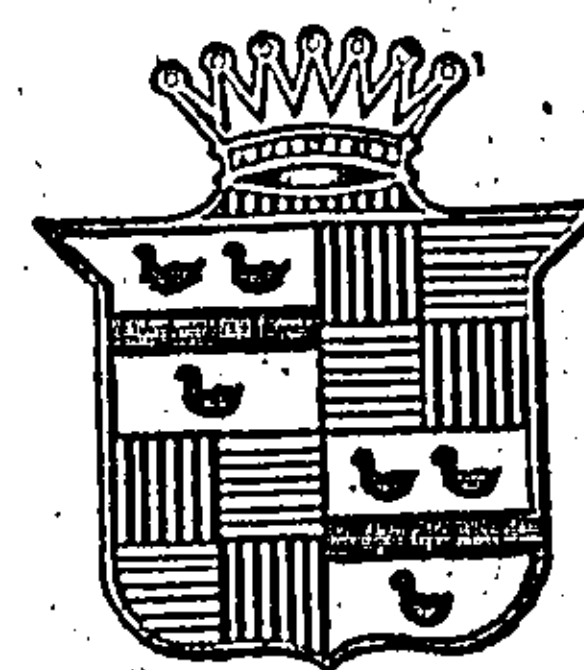
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BEAUTY AND THE BANDS—June Myers of Sydney brings a special appeal to this display of cigar bands exhibited in Chicago. The bands belong to hobbyist Grover Greasby of Milwaukee, who is vice-president of the International Cigar Band Society. His collection numbers 40,000 bands.



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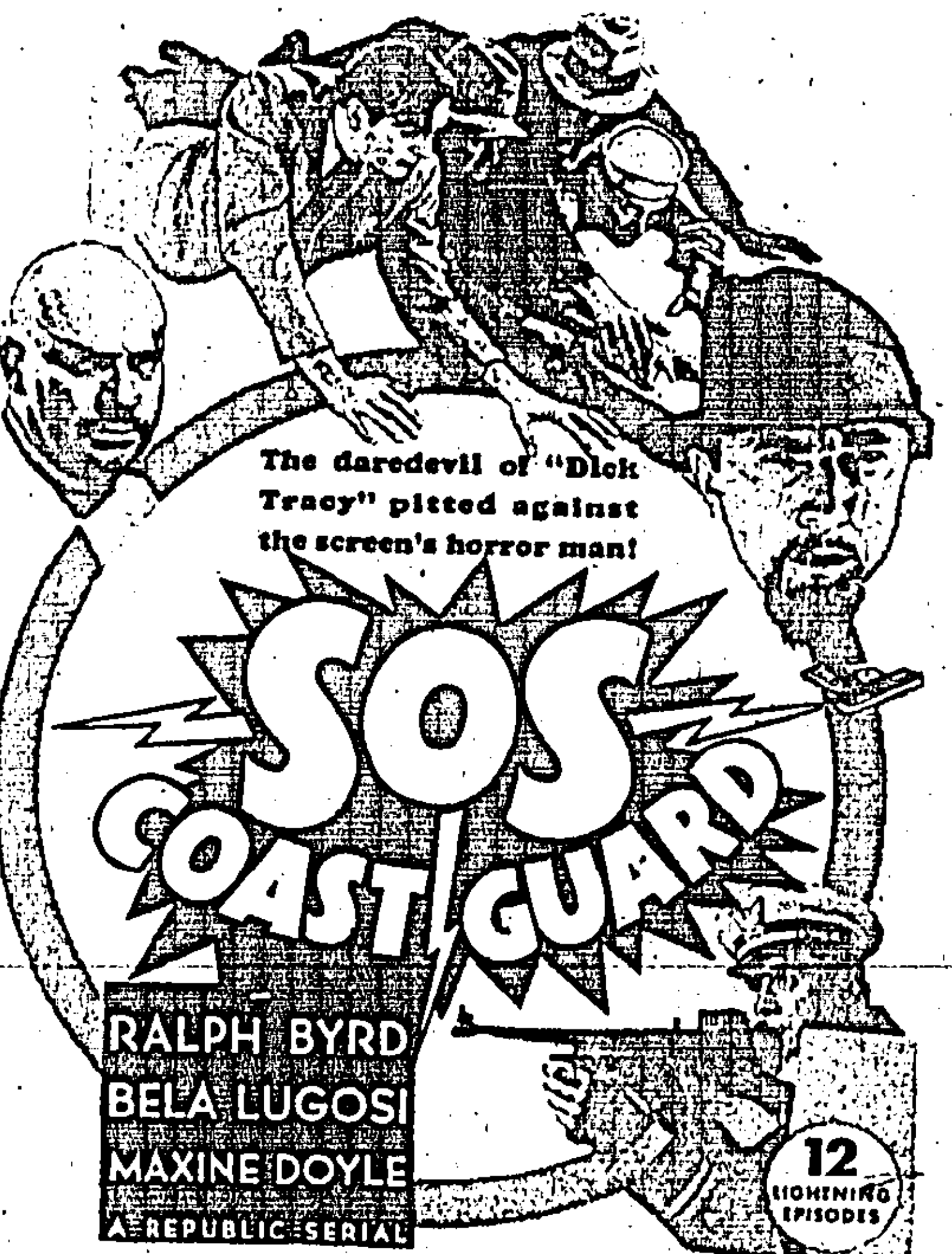
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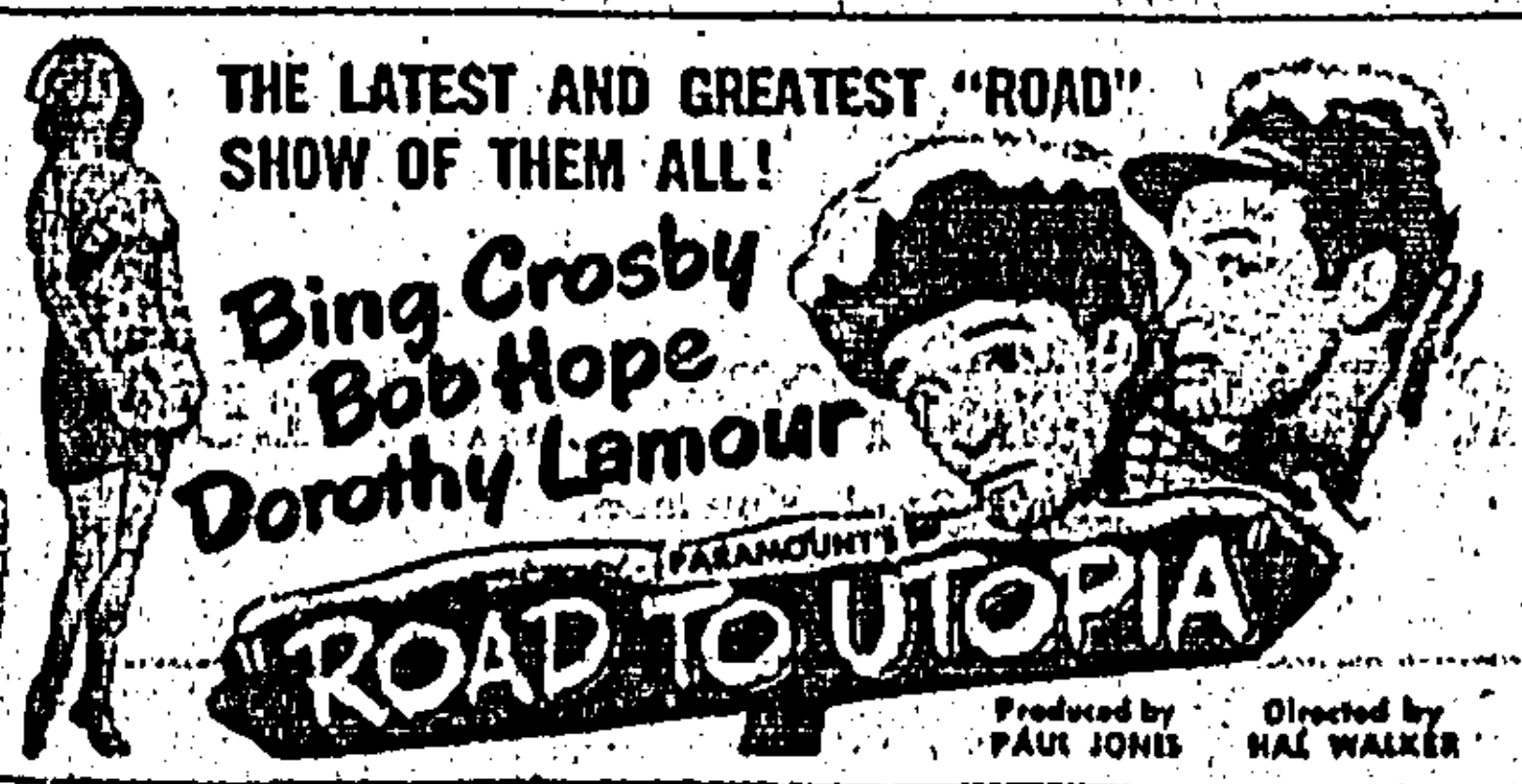
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NEXT CHANGE: "DEAD RECKONING"

SHOWING TO-DAY Cathay AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 p.m.



"I've got good news for you, sir. Your son's just passed his examination test!"

THE LAST MAN IN BRITAIN TO BE HANGED...

BY JOHN MATHER

A MAN who borrowed 6d. for his fare to commit a murder has journeyed on—into a niche of Britain's social history.

For it became clear that when Walter John Cross, an undistinguished enough lorry driver, was hanged at Pentonville on February 19, 1948, he earned a doubtful enough distinction.

He was the last man to be hanged in Britain—as far as the law can see ahead, which turns out to be five years.

There was nothing about his offish crime which suggested that the 21-year-old perpetrator would enjoy lasting notoriety.

His condition was not unheard of among 21-year-old men and, indeed, if they will not object, among lorry drivers. He was hard up.

The money

He had a wife who was expecting a baby. He needed money urgently. He thought he knew where he could get it.

For he and a friend had done business with a 55-year-old crippled watchmaker at a shop in King Edward-road, Barking, E.

In return for a "few things" they sold Mr. Percy Busby, they were handed £1. But Mr. Busby, in handing it over, added his life.

He took the £1 from a wallet containing £200, perhaps £70. And £70 is a lot of pounds to a man who is not worth any at all.

Cross and friend went away—but by November 14 of last year Cross was getting an obsession about "old Percy's money bag."

He told the jury which tried him at the Old Bailey that his friend got a key which could open Mr. Busby's front door.

They arranged to rob Mr. Busby, but his friend excused himself at the last minute on the ground of unexpected guests.

The crime

Cross went alone to King Edward-road and walked into Mr. Busby's workshop. There was the crippled Mr. Busby, leaning on a table—in the dark.

Cross shone a torch on him, saw the "money bag" peeping from a trouser pocket. He took that wallet.

What happened the process of taking the wallet was one story when told by Cross and quite another when the evidence was sifted.

"All Busby said was 'Oh.' He just let go of the table and fell. I did not strangle him. I used no violence at all."

But a neighbour heard three screams and a groan at 9.30 that night.

And although Cross tried to prove he was home in Orchard-road, Dagenham, Essex, at 9.30 p.m. the jury—to put it plainly—thought he lied.

They were so certain he lied that they found Walker John Cross guilty of the murder of Percy Busby and said so.

There came at this point the fourth scream of the case—from Cross's wife sitting in court.

She continued to scream as Mr. Justice Cassels put on his black cap—now to be regarded as a museum curiosity?—and sentenced Cross to die.

He appealed. He lost. He hanged. What follows is for collectors of the minutiae of social change.

The end

The story began for the public on November 15. The headline was: Murder at the Front Door.

It ended on February 20. The headline was "Cripple's murderer hanged."

This was the final story:

Walter John Cross, 21, lorry driver, of Orchard-road, Dagenham, Essex, was executed at Pentonville Prison, yesterday for the murder of Percy Busby, 55, a crippled watchmaker, at Barking, on November 14. Cross was sentenced to death at the Central Criminal Court on January 16.

NEW YORK. Italy is asked to return the compliment and step in against the Communists in an American election.

The request comes from Murray Baron, leader of New York's Liberal Party.

Baron and his Liberals are trying to do what every party has failed to do since 1942—throw out Congressman Vito Marcantonio.

Son of an Italian immigrant, Marcantonio represents a slum district of New York, peopled mostly by Italian Americans.

His constituents ignore Marcantonio's admitted Communist ties because at every election he at least promises to try to end the poverty, crime, overcrowding, and racketeering which plague their district.

Baron proposes that all Italians who get letters from New York relatives advising them to vote anti-Communist in the recent Italian elections should answer those letters. And in a postscript they might "dwell upon the satisfaction of turning a Communist out."

THE REPUBLICANS, or Tories, announce they are confident that Americans are more interested in

WHY I SUPPORT THE COMMUNIST PURGE

By

W.J. BROWN
Independent Member
of Parliament

WITH what emotions did the House listen to the Prime Minister's statement on the steps proposed to keep Communists and Fascists out of posts in the public service where their dual loyalty might be a danger to national security? With sorrow, and with relief.

Sorrow, because there is in Parliament a strong dislike of discrimination on political grounds. Relief, because all parties have recognised, since the destruction from within of the democracy of Czechoslovakia, that a country which does not protect itself from Communist penetration is doomed to go the same way as that unhappy country.

The message of Masaryk has got home. Being dead, he yet speaketh.

Within the accepted premises of political democracy there is no case whatever for the application of political tests for employment in the public service. Since 1870, when the old "patronage system" gave way to open competition, men and women have been appointed on their merits—as determined by their performance in examination.

It is only when the premises of democracy are expressly repudiated that it becomes proper to consider the application of such tests. Then it is not only proper, but imperative.

WHAT are the essential premises of democracy? They are four in number.

The first is that the will of the people, as expressed in secret ballot, shall prevail.

The second is that social change shall be effected by legislation and not by violence.

The third is that opposition parties shall be allowed to function

fully and freely, and to convert the people to their way of thinking if they can.

And the fourth is that the supremacy of impersonal and impartial law shall be maintained, through a judiciary wholly independent of Government and of party.

If a man accepts these premises, then, whether he be of the Right or the Left, he is essentially a democrat. If he rejects them, he rejects the whole conception of democracy.

Now this is precisely what both Fascists and Communists do: the Fascists in practice, the Communists both in theory and practice.

THOSE who think that the Communist Party is merely a party

somewhat to the left of the Labour Party should read Marx's Manifesto issued a hundred years ago, and still the Bible of the Communist movement. Says the Manifesto: "The Communists disdain to conceal their views and aims. They openly declare that their ends can be attained only by the forcible overthrow of all existing social conditions."

We cannot say that we have not been warned.

The penetration of the existing organs of society, such as the Trade Unions, the Co-operative movement, the Labour Party, the Civil Service, and the rest, are means to this end of forcible overthrow.

When the penetration is wide and deep enough, the whole apparatus comes into action, as we have seen in recent weeks in Czechoslovakia. Democracy is destroyed. And then comes the purge.

Civil Servants are not merely transferred from security jobs. They are sacked outright by the thousands.

The judiciary is purged, and thereafter ceases to be independent of the Government. The Press is purged, for there must be no criticism of the operations of a Communist Government.

Opposition Parties are "embodied" or liquidated. "Plots" are discovered, and made the basis for trying, condemning and imprisoning political opponents. The Iron Curtain descends.

A State which does not protect itself from Communist penetration is like a man who tenses his throat to the knife.

When the Communist Party within a country is in effect the Fifth Column of a hostile foreign power, acting as a spying agency in time of peace, and as a Trojan horse in time of war, the danger of military destruction of democracy and all human freedoms.

THE Communists and their sympathisers will doubtless raise a great shriek about democracy and liberty in relation to the Government's decision.

But those whose purpose it is to destroy democracy have no right to invoke it. Nor are we obliged to give them freedom to destroy freedom.

It has taken centuries of struggle to achieve the freedoms which we enjoy in Britain. We have not defended those freedoms against foreign foes to surrender them to the enemy in our midst.

Meantime, ought we to allow the legal existence of a Communist Party pledged to the forcible overthrow of all existing institutions? And what does the Parliamentary Labour Party propose to do about the fellow-travellers in its own midst?

WHAT THE EMIR ASKS FOR

By CHARLES FOLEY

THE little king who today makes Page One news has waited 30 years for his chance. Thirty years of scheming, arguing, persuading, 30 years filled with the restless, harrowing ambition.

Abdullah regarded his desert kingdom merely as a symbol of a greater glory. To cross the Jordan into Palestine was for him—destiny.

When last I called on him it was without notice, in the heavy siesta hour when everyone in Amman, the dusty Transjordan capital, seemed asleep.

Nevertheless, Abdullah broke his reverie, bathed his face in perfumed water, donned a dress of muslin worked with gold thread, and sallied out from his bedchamber to meet a man from England, who might, in some way, be able to forward his cause.



HE IS 63-year-old, greybearded, King Abdullah Ibn Hussein. HE rules Transjordan, a Middle East key State of 300,000 people and 34,700 square miles flanking oil-rich Persia. HE has been Britain's friend since the 1914-18 war, when his people helped Colonel Lawrence of Arabia to harry the Germans and Turks, and so, with British troops, free their land. HE stood by Britain in World War II, sending his best Bedouin warriors to fight Vichyites in Syria and rebels who threatened our Iraq oil. HE was rewarded when Britain made him an R.A.F. honorary Air Commodore, a Knight, Grand Cross of St. Michael and St. George, and, after administering his territory under mandate (like Palestine), gave it independence in 1946 and made him king. HE lives in a mountain palace at Amman and loves to set his guests chasing each other round the main hall, which is hung with distorting mirrors. HE plays chess—his favourite pieces are models of British tanks and planes—and adores poetry. HE buys a rifle when he visits a foreign city—but always carries an exquisitely worked golden dagger 200 years old.

J. A. A.

the sake of unity in the Near East.

Through the interpreter, a Transjordan doctor with an Edinburgh degree, I expressed my astonished admiration. Could it be, I said, that the absolute ruler of this kingdom wished to strip himself of his power for so magnanimous an object?

My mistake was rapidly corrected. Abdullah's aim was indeed a "greater Syria" to include the other States, but it seemed that he saw himself as the inevitable ruler of the confederation.

At this point the interpreter, who had been addressing Abdullah as "you Highness," fell on his knees, seized his master's hand and smothered it with kisses, stammering, "Your most Royal Highness shall be blessed with endless progeny and empire over the nearby lands—an Oriental quick-change that told me all I wanted to know about Abdullah's aims."

And when I attempted to balance the case between Jews and Arabs in Palestine, Abdullah burst out: "But surely you can have nothing to say for the Jews! Never in all these years have I allowed a single Jew in Transjordan."

Abdullah's forces, trained by Glubb, the latter day Lawrence of Arabia who is a brigadier in the British Army, a major-general in Transjordan, are the only modern striking force in the area. For many years Abdullah has received a large annual subsidy from the British Government to keep his army equipped and mobile in the interests of peace.

C.V.R. THOMPSON Reports The U.S. Scene

finding out who will be their next President than who will win the Louis-Walcott fight. In other words, they will not postpone their candidature-picking convention on the night of June 23 for fear more radio listeners will tune in to the Louis fight than to theirs.

ONCE America's most eloquent Socialist author, John Dos Passos announced he would campaign in this year's election for Senator Robert Taft, most-Tory Republican candidate for President.

BROADWAY is applauding the usually dapper Jack Buchanan for taking over its most difficult role—the whimsical drunk who imagines he is accompanied on his pub, crawls by a 6ft white rabbit called Harvey. Says the New York Herald-Tribune: "Harvey's latest pal is a likeable bloke."

CONGRESS is purposely dawdling over paying UNO \$10,000,000 for its skyscraper headquarters in New York. Says Senator Ralph Flinders: "We cannot bring a dying body back to life" by building a mausoleum for it."

NO WONDER drivers of New York's overcrowded buses are threatening to strike for more

wages. A frustrated passenger chased one bus for a mile and a half in a taxi one day, and when he finally boarded it he stabbed the driver.

TO FRIENDS, President Truman has admitted that he hopes Stalin does not accept his invitation to come to Washington for a conference. Truman's reason: No good would come of it, and the Russians would use it as a sounding board.

FOR A CHANGE, Negroes went on a lynching party in America's South recently. Police from Columbia, South Carolina arrived just in time to save Thomas White, a Negro railway worker, from a mob of nearly 200 angry Negroes.

The mob alleged that White had beaten his 11-year-old son to death because he would not tell who had given him a dollar.

LOS ANGELES, a vast sprawling city whose main street is 35 miles long, is becoming the best customer for the small British cars now being sent to America. People there are buying them not for their snob appeal, as in the New York area, but because they use half as much petrol as the smallest American car.

NANCY The Honeymoon Express

By Ernie Bushmiller



\$6 MILLION INCOME IN 12 MONTHS

Canton Insurance Record Business

It was reported by the Hon. D. F. Landale (Chairman) at the 63rd ordinary yearly meeting of shareholders of the Canton Insurance Office Ltd held in Jardine Matheson's boardroom this morning that the premium income for the first 12 months working for 1947 had passed the six million mark which exceeded their previous best figure at the same stage by over \$1,000,000. The increase was due in the main to the greatly enhanced value of all insurable property.

Addressing the meeting the Chairman said:

Before commencing the business of this Meeting I wish to record with deep regret the death of Mr. A. H. Compton, a member of the Consulting Committee for close on 30 years and I know shareholders will join with me in expressing our deep sympathy to Mrs. Compton and her family.

The Statement of Accounts for the year 1946, which we now present to you, while not up to the standard of last year can, I think, be considered as satisfactory. Premium Income rose from \$4,353,475 for 1945 to \$4,844,257 for the year under review but, unfortunately, losses also increased by \$905,503. Interest shows a small rise of \$9,508.

A comparison of ratios between the two years reveals Losses at 42.01% for 1946 as against 36.13% for 1945 while charges work out at 31.13% as against 26.40%. The Underwriting Surplus was 25.06% compared with 38.47% for 1945.

A NEW SYSTEM

For many years now our Annual Report has been presented in a form which has been separate Underwriting Accounts for the two preceding years. Correspondingly, it has been our practice to allocate the amount paid in dividend partly against the closed Account as a final dividend and partly against the Open Account as a interim dividend. Apart from the fact that our present system is not in keeping with modern practice, we find it very inconvenient when filing Statutory Annual Returns with the Government Authorities in various parts of the world where the Company operates. These authorities require that our Accounts be compiled so as to show the year's transactions in one Account. I might say that this method is now almost universally adopted by Insurance Companies.

It is therefore proposed to change the method of presenting our annual figures as from January 1, 1948, and to show all the transactions which take place in that year in one Account.

As regards the dividend to be declared in respect of the year 1947, it is recommended that this be paid out of the 1946 Working Account Balance. This balance after deducting the interim dividend of \$5 paid last year, stands at \$1,552,204, and I propose that a dividend of \$12 per share be paid which will absorb \$600,000 and that the balance of \$952,204 be transferred to Underwriting Suspense Account, thus closing the 1946 Working Account. As for the balance of \$3,922,128 for the 1947 Working Account I propose that this be carried forward.

PREMIUM RESERVE ACCOUNT

In the new system of accounting the Underwriting Suspense Account as such will, of course, disappear and part of the balance previously standing to its credit will be incorporated in a new Premium Reserve Account which will be set up to take care of outstanding losses.

On the face of things it would appear that we are paying a dividend of \$17 for 1946 Account but in actual fact Shareholders will only be receiving \$12 during the present calendar year, since the interim dividend of \$5 was paid in June 1947 at the same time as the final dividend of \$7 for the previous year.

I would draw shareholders' attention to the fact that this 1947 dividend is paid out of profits for the year ended December 31, 1946 and consequently there is no liability to Hongkong Tax thereon.

A review of the Balance Sheet shows that British Indian & Colonial Securities have fallen by \$535,914 or 23.32% as expressed in Sterling, which is due to the decline in market value of our gilt-edged holdings. Other Investments show a rise of \$1,083,450; this is due to the increase in market value of local investments.

I feel sure of your approval of the donation of \$50,000 to the Hongkong War Memorial Fund which was made last year and has been charged to the 1947 Account.

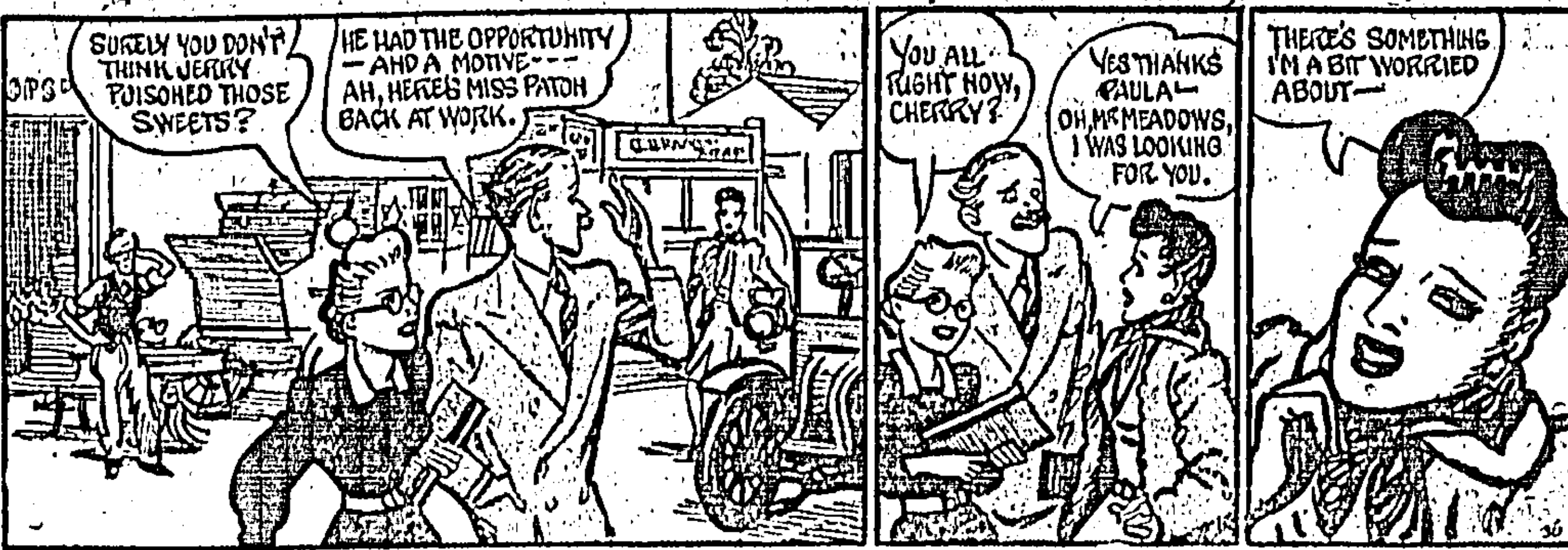
PREVIOUS BEST PAST

You will have noted that premium income for the first twelve months working of 1947 has passed the six million mark; this exceeds our previous best figure at the same stage by over one million dollars. The increase is due in the main to the greatly enhanced value of all insurable property. One naturally expects larger losses on an increased premium income but unfortunately the actual loss ratio has gone up by 5.03% when compared with 1946 after twelve months working. Theft and pilferage losses continue at an extremely high level and I fear that

PAULA

By DENNIS WHEATLEY

Cherry Paton, stand-in for the star, has a problem. She brings it to Meadows.



Drove Car Under Influence Of Drink

COURT IMPOSES FINE OF \$500

Found guilty of driving a car while under the influence of drink, and for driving without due care and attention, Northam Lawrence, of the Royal Observatory, was this morning fined \$500 by Mr Blair-Kerr at Kowloon Magistracy.

In addition, the magistrate ordered the suspension of defendant's driving licence for 12 months on the first charge, and an endorsement on the second.

In ordering the suspension, Mr Blair-Kerr ruled that even in cases where driving was a means of livelihood for professional drivers, it did not constitute a "special reason" for the order not to be made.

Mr L. Starbuck, Acting Director of the Royal Observatory, made an successful plea on behalf of the defendant to stay the order. He submitted that Lawrence's duties were rather special, in that he had to take his shift in weather forecasting from 2-4 a.m. at Kai Tak during which time traffic was abnormal. The suspension would mean curtailing the services at Kai Tak.

Prosecuting, Inspector J. Hidden said that about 11 p.m. yesterday he was on motor patrol duty and he noticed defendant driving a car along Prince Edward Road towards Nathan Road.

"I saw the defendant was not keeping a straight course and he was being followed by another private car," continued Inspector Hidden. "I followed and became the second vehicle behind him. Then suddenly he stopped dead in the centre of the road and the car following narrowly avoided running into the back of his car."

STRONG SMELL OF DRINK

Continuing, Inspector Hidden said he walked towards the defendant and when he spoke to him he noticed that Lawrence's breath smelt strongly of drink and that his eyes were heavy. "I asked him to step out of his car which he did and he staggered in getting out. Then I told him I was arresting him for being under the influence of drink

so long as certain commodities are in short supply, little improvement can be expected. As I stated last year, additional rates received under the Combined Marine Surcharge so a long way towards meeting these claims and I am pleased to say that the recent agitation by certain sections of the London Market for the abolition of this surcharge has not been successful. In the Hull market the high cost of repairs and the increased number of casualties in 1947 has had an adverse effect on results. It would have been thought that in the post-war period, with a return to more normal conditions at sea, casualties would have been fewer whereas since 1945 they have steadily increased. One particularly expensive casualty in 1947 was the total loss of the "Monarch of Bermuda" as a result of fire whilst undergoing reconditioning; this Office was interested for a material sum.

HEAVY TAXATION

In Australia, where this Company has been operating for a great many years, we have suffered heavily from taxation owing to restrictive legislation regarding reinsurance placed abroad. I am glad to say, however, that the Act has recently been amended and, as a result, the Company should benefit in net income received from that part of the world in the future.

I propose the following Resolution:—That the Report and Accounts, as presented, including the payment of a dividend of \$12.00 per share out of 1946 Working Account and the addition of \$952,204 to Underwriting Suspense Account be adopted and passed.

OTHER BUSINESS

The adoption of the Resolution was seconded by Mr Li Koon-chun and carried unanimously.

On the proposal of Mr B. W. Bradbury, seconded by Mr S. Hampden Ross, the following was resolved to the Consulting Committee:—The Hon. M. K. Lo, Messrs F. C. Barry, C. Bernard Brown, P. S. Cassidy, D. E. Clark, W. A. Stewart and S. T. Williamson.

It was proposed by Mr M. H. Lo and seconded by Mr D. Hung that Messrs Lowe, Bingham and Matthews and Percy Smith and Comptons be re-elected auditors at a remuneration of \$4,000 each.

Present at the meeting were the Hon. D. F. Landale (Chairman), the Hon. M. K. Lo, Messrs F. C. Barry, P. S. Cassidy, D. E. Clark, S. T. Williamson (Consulting Committee), K. A. Mason (Secretary) and Messrs D. Hung, M. H. Lo, Horace Lo, S. Hampden Ross, B. W. Bradbury, Ho Sui-shing, Chan Wing C. C. Blake and Li Koon-chun (shareholders).

to such an extent as to be incapable to have full control of the vehicle and he replied "Very well."

"He was taken to the Kowloon City Police Station where I invited him to be examined by any doctor he so desired. He asked to be examined by Dr. Holloway. I took him to the Kowloon Hospital where he was examined and certified to be drunk."

Dr R. W. Holloway, of the Kowloon Hospital, in the witness stand yesterday said that he examined Lawrence at 11.30 p.m. yesterday and found him to be under the influence of alcohol to such an extent as to be incapable of driving a car.

DEFENDANT'S DENIALS

Denying the allegations, Lawrence said he attended a party last night and had had a normal amount of drink. Going home after the dinner, he was accompanied by two friends, and it was intended, they should call on another friend. He himself did not know where this friend was living and he followed the instruction of one of the passengers. He stopped suddenly because he thought he had passed the house.

"I did not think I had taken liquor to such an extent that I was incapable of driving a car and neither was I driving without due care and attention," concluded Lawrence.

Flying Officer E. N. Gambier, RAF, who was one of the passengers on the defendant's car, gave evidence on behalf of Lawrence. He said he noticed nothing particular about defendant's driving and he was not worried about it in any way.

Cross examined by Inspector Hidden, F/O Gambier admitted saying to the Police that "I asked defendant to let me drive and he wouldn't."

Corroborative evidence was also given by Pilot Officer Arnott who was the other passenger in the car.

In a plea for mitigation, Mr L. Starbuck said: "I would like to testify to the previous good conduct of the defendant and to his efficient carrying out of his duties in the past. Last week the defendant was suffering from acute fulicular tonsillitis. He was granted seven days leave of absence and in the interest of the Department which is short-staffed, he returned to duty after four days. It may be that he is less recovered than he imagined himself to be."

Had No Driving Licence

Seen driving private car No. 7740 in a strange manner during the early hours of this morning, Ng Chiu-wai, 21, garage fitter, was stopped by a traffic constable on patrol duty at the junction of Hennessy Road and Percival Street, who discovered that the man had no driving licence.

Before Mr Hin-shing Lo later in the morning, Ng was fined \$200 or one month's hard labour for driving without a licence and without the owner's permission.

MERCHANDISE CONFISCATED

Seized at Kai Tak air port on Thursday, \$1,000 worth of merchandise including talcum powder, dentifrice, hand-bags, nylon stockings, blankets, wool, clothing and plastic goods, was confiscated by Mr Blair-Kerr at Kowloon this morning.

The owner, So Kai-lam, admitted a charge of exporting unmanifested cargo and was cautioned. He said he bought the goods in Hongkong to take home to friends and relatives in Amoy.

R.O. Knox stated So was about to leave for Amoy by a CATC plane when arrested. He tried to take the goods out as personal effects.

SWEEP SALE STOPS 5 P.M.

The number of tickets sold in the Lantau Handicap had exceeded 1,470,000 at noon today.

Sale of tickets will stop at 5 p.m. today. No tickets will be sold on this Sweep tomorrow morning, as the draw will take place at 11 a.m. at Happy Valley. The draw will be held in the pari-mutuel enclosure and the public stand. There will be a total of 193 prizes.

The race will be run off at 2.30 p.m.

Sale of cash sweep through numbers will continue until 9.30 a.m. tomorrow at the Jockey Club's office in town.

NOT GUILTY VERDICT

Judge Describes Men As "Most Fortunate"

"You are the most fortunate five men I have encountered for a long time," remarked the Acting Police Judge, Mr Justice Gould, at the Criminal Sessions this morning when he discharged five men who were unanimously found not guilty by a jury on charges of conspiracy to rob and attempted armed robbery.

The accused were Li Yiu, 27, Li Chi-wing, 24, Chan Shun, 28, Lam Tak, 24, and Tong Shun, 25. Second accused was additionally charged with possession of arms and ammunition, and third accused with possession of a dagger. They were also found not guilty on these counts.

The jury, comprising four men and three women, deliberated for 35 minutes before returning their verdicts.

The five men were alleged to have conspired to commit a robbery at No. 171 Lockhart Road, first floor, and to have attempted to carry it out on the morning of February 13.

ACCUSE POLICE

In the course of the trial, all made allegations against the Police that they were beaten-up and forced to sign confessions admitting the charges against them.

The men were arrested by a party of Police, acting on information received, outside No. 171 Lockhart Road, on February 13.

The allegations against the Police were denied, and evidence in rebuttal was called.

Mr Percy Chen appeared for the first and fifth accused, on the instructions of Mr C. A. S. Rugs and Mr M. A. da Silva respectively. Mr J. Reynolds, Crown Counsel, prosecuted, assisted by Det. Sub-Inspector D. G. MacPherson. The other three accused were not represented by Counsel.

His Lordship exempted the jury from further service for one year. The trial occupied five days.

COXSAIN IN COURT

The acting coxswain of a motor junk was cautioned by Mr Cairns at the Marine Court this morning for being under way without a certificate. The coxswain, on board, when he produced a statement from the Port Officer, Wai Young District, that the proper coxswain had been taken ill and had to be put ashore at Swatow.

On an additional charge of carrying three excess passengers he was fined \$100 or one month. He pleaded that they were owners of the cargo of pigs he had brought to Hongkong.

LOITERERS FINED

Two young Chinese women, Wong King, 22, and Pang Yuk-chun, 25, were fined \$150 each by Mr Hin-shing Lo at Central this morning for causing obstruction by loitering in Hennessy Road near Penwick Street at 2.15 p.m. yesterday. Defendants each had a previous conviction.

Another woman, Chan Lin, 21, who had no previous conviction was bound over in \$100 for 12 months.

Letters To The Editor

Traffic Control

Sir,—Referring to your foot-note under "Licensed Driver's" letter in your issue of May 12, it seems to me that the point that your correspondent was making was that pedestrians should not cross the north side of Chater Road when eastbound traffic is released. After all, they do not cross the north side of Des Voeux Road when the eastbound traffic is released and the case of Chater Road is similar. If pedestrians cross Chater Road only when westbound traffic is released in Des Voeux Road they should be perfectly safe.

However, I fully agree with you that this is a particularly dangerous crossing and I have seen several near-accidents there, mainly due to pedestrians continuing to cross when eastbound traffic is released. There is a safety period, when westbound traffic is released, but pedestrians do not seem to have realised this. The remedy seems to lie either in light signals for pedestrians on Alexandra and Union buildings, or verbal instruction at this particular crossing. Verbal instructions by the police at Pedder Street and Des Voeux Road crossings seem to have successfully trained pedestrians in the correct way of those crossings; perhaps, with a little practice, the same results could be obtained at the Chater Road crossing.

I think everyone, pedestrians and motorists, will agree that a tremendous improvement in traffic control in the central district has taken place within the last few months and I feel that the Traffic Superintendent and any others who are in any way responsible for these improvements are very much to be congratulated. I believe many further improvements are planned and only awaiting "Government approval." What is more important than the speeding up of traffic is that the last few months have shown a considerable decrease in the number of traffic accidents in the central district. Indeed there has been a noticeable decrease throughout the whole Colony.

V. E. FERRIER, Hon. Secretary, Hongkong Automobile Association.

[As Mr Ferrier says, the remedy seems to lie either in light signals for pedestrians on Alexandra and Union Buildings, or verbal instructions at this particular crossing. That was the point we tried to stress, at the same time we contended until this was done, pedestrians must be afforded right of way of the police safety zone. It is noted that a police officer has since been placed on point duty at the crossing, directing both vehicular and pedestrian traffic, with beneficial results.—Ed. HKTF.]

Jews Tighten Grip

(Continued from Page 1)

Quarters close to the Arab League said tonight that King Abdullah of Transjordan made the dissolution of the Arab Liberation Army, as now constituted, a condition for the employment of his Transjordan Arab Legion troops in the Palestine campaign.

There were other conditions, which the Arab League had endorsed, but the announcement should have been delayed until the "zero hour," these quarters added. They regarded the disclosure as premature.

These quarters confirmed the authenticity of a statement attributed to King Abdullah in which he criticised what he called the unrepresentative nature of the Palestine Arab Higher Committee.

The Mufti of Jerusalem, Haj Amin El Hussein, said yesterday he did not believe this statement could have come from King Abdullah, as the Committee was undoubtedly recognised by all the Arab League states and by the United Nations Organisation.

King Abdullah was reported on Tuesday to have asserted, in a statement from Amman, that the Palestine Arab Higher Committee was no longer satisfied the entire people of Palestine.

"Its representatives at the United Nations must regard themselves as no longer representing the Palestine Arabs," he said. He mentioned the Mufti by name in his attack.

King Abdullah said the Arab Liberation Army had discharged its duty during the past few months and those duties would devolve on the Arab regular armies. "The Arab Liberation forces are now regarded as dissolved," he said. Reuter.

LEE THEATRE

ADVANCE BOOKING OFFICE: ST. FRANCIS HOTEL
BOOKING HOURS: 11.00 A.M. TO 5.30 P.M. DAILY

SHOWING TO-DAY AT 2.30, 5.15, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.

BETTE DAVIS
PAUL HENREID
CLAUDE RAINS

DECEPTION

WARNER ACHIEVEMENT

DIRECTED BY IRVING RAPPER • PRODUCED BY HENRY BLANKS
SCREEN PLAY BY JOHN COLLIER AND JOSEPH VANCE • BASED ON A PLAY BY LOUIS VERNEUIL • MUSIC BY BRUCE WOLFE AND ROBERT ROSS

ALSO LATEST GAUMONT BRITISH NEWS:
THE F.A. CUP FINAL AT WEMBLEY

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No Lend-Lease Plan

Washington, May 13.—President Truman said today he was contemplating no plan to ask Congress for armaments for Western Europe. He told his press conference that as far as the frequently discussed possibility of a resumption of military lend-lease to the Western European nations was concerned, there was no such plan before him. Reuter.

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Adapted from "THE LAST OF THE MOHICANS" by JAMES FENIMORE COOPER

CASTING BY JIM HARRIS • COSTUME DESIGNER • BETTE HARRIS

— TO-MORROW —
"SINCE YOU WENT AWAY"

Starring **CLAUDETTE COLBERT JOSEPH COTTEN**

FOR SALE

RADIO Four Valve • K.D., nearly new. Owner leaving, reasonable offer, acceptable for quick sale. Telephone 3441, 304, Peak top floor.

AUSSIES DECLARE AT 414 FOR FOUR WICKETS

ONE CHAMPION



Miss Wong Yuen-sang, younger daughter of Dr S. To Wong of Hongkong, who won the 200 metres breast stroke final at the Chinese National Games in Shanghai in 3 mins. 43.5 seconds.

Cambridge Requires Another 103 Runs To Save An Innings Defeat

Cambridge, May 13.—At the close of play today, Cambridge scored 144 for seven wickets in their second innings against the Australian tourists, who had declared at 414 for four.

There was no stopping Brown and Hassett after lunch. Both scored freely all round the wicket, although when at 32, Hassett mishit a ball from Griffiths dangerously near mid-on.

Keen fielding by Cambridge kept Brown at 199 for 15 minutes but at length a single off Pearsall took him to 200 in four hours and 55 minutes. He hit 16 fours.

Brown was taken high at short leg without an addition to his score and Hassett, who reached his 50 in 80 minutes declared the innings closed at 414 for four, leaving Cambridge to get 247 runs to avoid an innings defeat.

The Cambridge batsmen shaped very indifferently against Colin McCool's slow spinners when they batted a second time. McCool bowled his leg breaks with greater accuracy than in any of the earlier matches and in 27 overs he took six wickets for 50 runs.

At the normal time for drawing stumps six wickets were down for 120 and the extra half hour was claimed. Cambridge held out but with three wickets in hand they still require another 103 to make the Australians bat again.

COUNTY CRICKET

London, May 14.—Middlesex, in championship winning form, whipped Worcestershire by 10 wickets at Lords on Thursday for its second successive win.

Worcestershire, on a tricky pitch in afternoon sunshine, never looked like making a fight of it when they faced first innings arrears of 125.

The Middlesex lead was built up by Denis Compton and Walter Robins in a bright batting stand. Compton batted faultlessly until he made the bad stroke which cost him his wicket when he had 94. Robins hit three sixes and seven fours in a hard driving innings.

Lancashire and Yorkshire too, appeared set for wins, and the Australians against Cambridge University will probably have to field for about 30 minutes on Friday morning to round off the game with another convincing victory.

Lancashire piled up 470 against Warwickshire, got out the Middlesexers for 262 and, in the follow on, dismissed three wickets for five runs.

Yorkshire had to fight hard for a first innings lead over Northamptonshire but, in the Northamptonshire second innings, Hargreaves, Yorkshire's left arm bowler and Coxon routed the batsmen. With one wicket standing Northamptonshire lead by only 140 runs.—Associated Press.

THE SCORES

At Lords, Worcestershire 157 (Gray 5 for 25) and 132 (Edrich 3 for 31, Young 2 for 18, Compton 4 for 36). Middlesex 282 (Compton Denis 94, Robins 67, Hargreaves 5 for 70, Peaks 4 for 50), and 8 for 0 wicket. Middlesex won by 10 wickets.

NATIONAL GAMES

Hongkong Leading In Swimming Finals

Shanghai, May 14.—Hongkong and Malaya were running neck to neck in the National Athletic Meet swimming events for men, following the conclusion of yesterday's programme. Both teams are expected to go all out in today's remaining finals for the country's aquatic crown.

According to unofficial tabulations, Hongkong has up to now garnered 26 points as compared to Malaya's 24.

Sports observers pick Hongkong as the ultimate winner. In the ladies' swimming, the Colony virtually assured herself of the championship, having scored 30 points to Malaya's 9, Siam's 7, Taiwan's 5 and Canton's 3.—Reuter.

BASEBALL

NEW YORK MOVES UP TO HEAD NATIONAL LEAGUE

New York, May 13.—In the National League, Ray Poth hurled New York into first place today by shutting out Saint Louis 5-0, to drop the Cardinals into second place.

Poth held the Cards hitless after the third inning. Bill Voiselle gave Boston a shutout 2-0 victory over Chicago for his fourth straight win. Third baseman Bob Elliott drove home both Boston runs on a single and ground out.

Home runs by centre fielder Carl Furillo and right fielder Don Lund and four Cincinnati errors aided Brooklyn in romping to a 9-3 victory.

Veteran Preacher Roe pitched a whole game for the Dodgers for the first time this year.

In the American League, all three scheduled games were rained out—the Cleveland at New York, Chicago

Hampshire 151 (McCormell 57, Kardar 4 for 41, Travers 2 for 21).—Associated Press.

THE SCOREBOARD

Cambridge, 1st innings: 107. Australians, 1st innings: 414 for 4 wickets. Morris, c Pearsall, b Mills 28. Brown, c Pearsall, b Griffiths 200. Hamence, c Insole, b Griffiths 02. Harvey, run out 16. Hassett, not out 61. Extras 19.

Howling Analysis

Balley 15 1 43 0. Griffiths 32 4 138 2. Pearsall 13 1 50 0. Mills 25 4 88 1. Pryer 13 0 50 0. Dogart 6 1 17 0.

Cambridge 144 for seven.

Pepper, c and b McCool 16. Bogart, c Siggers, b McCool 40. Shuttleworth, b McCool 4. Bailey, not out 34. Elgood, b Miller 13. Insole, b McCool 15. Mills, b McCool 15. Pryer, not out, 1. Extras 19.—Associated Press.

At Manchester, Lancashire 470

(Washbrook 110, Edrich 100, Ikin 60, Cranston 60, Pritchard, 4 for 110, Hollies, 4 for 110).

Warwickshire 262 (Ord 54, Pollard, 3 for 58, Cranston 4 for 63) and 5 for 3.

At Huddersfield, Northamptonshire 233 (Brookes 53, Clarke 40, Whitehead 4 for 38) and 154 for 9.

Yorkshire 247 (Hutton 72, Watson 41, Garlick, 4 for 58, Nutter 3 for 60, Clarke 2 for 45).

At Oxford, Oxford University 203 (Kardar 80, Knott 4 for 85) and 108 for 7.

BABE AT THE BALLGAME



Although his baseball days are over, the sports ailing Bambino is right there cheering from the sidelines when he is in New York. Accompanied by his wife, left, and daughter, Mrs Julie Flanders, Babe Ruth views a Giant-Dodgers meeting in the Polo Grounds.

GOLF

IRISH WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP

London, May 13.—Phylomena Garvey, youngest member of the British Curtis Cup team, retained the Irish Women's golf championship at Rossare today, beating Mrs Reddan, another British Curtis Cup golfer, nine and seven in the 36 holes final.

Frances Stephens, who failed to make the British Curtis Cup team, won the Lancashire Women's championship at Hillsdale, Southport, beating Jessie Fifth four and two in the 18 holes final.—Associated Press.

Whitcombe Leads Von Nida

London, May 13.—Fifty-year-old Reginald Whitcombe, a former British open golf champion, equalled two 22-year-old records on the Sunningdale Club's course in Berkshire today, to lead the field at the halfway stage of the Daily Mail £2,500 professional golf tournament.

Whitcombe's score today was 66, equalling the record created by Bobby Jones 22 years ago and equalling in yesterday's first round by Norman Von Nida, of Australia, and Reginald Horne, of London.

Whitcombe's aggregate for the first 36 holes was 134, and this equalled Jones' 1926 total for 36 holes in the open championship qualifying in that year.

Horne finished second today with 135, Von Nida was third with 136, and Dal Rees fourth with 137. Altogether, 35 players with totals of 144 or better survived for the final 36 holes tomorrow.—Reuter.

SMYSLOV SECOND

Moscow, May 13.—Vasily Smyslov of Russia clinched second place in the world chess tournament today by solidly defeating Dr Max Euwe of Holland.

The title has already been won by Mikhail Botvinnik of Russia, who helped his fellow countryman grab runner-up honours by conquering Sam Reshevsky of the United States in today's next to last round.

Botvinnik has 14 points, Smyslov 11, Reshevsky and Paul Keres of Russia, 9½ each and Euwe 4.

The last round will be played on Sunday with Reshevsky meeting Euwe and Keres playing Botvinnik. Smyslov has a bye.—Associated Press.

DAVIS CUP

Britain Wins Through

Oslo, May 13.—Great Britain beat Norway by four to one in the Second Round of the European Zone Davis Cup competition and will meet the Netherlands in the quarter-final stage in Birmingham, England, on June 12, 14 and 16.

Today, Great Britain won both remaining singles, with Geoff Paish beating J. Strubo, 6-4, 6-1, 6-2, to make sure that Britain would win the tie, and Tony Mottram defeating J. Hannes by 6-1, 6-0, 6-7 and 6-1.—Reuter.

Trainer's Licence Withdrawn

London, May 13.—Captain Bobby Petre, one of Britain's outstanding steeplechase trainers, had his training licence withdrawn today by the Stewards of the National Hunt Committee, who alleged that a seven-year-old horse trained by Capt Petre was doped when it ran at Plampton race-track on January 28.

Capt Petre, 34, a former Scots Guards officer, was top amateur steeplechase jockey in 1933, when he won the Grand National on Lovely Cottage. His left foot was amputated last March when he broke a leg jumping from the sea wall at the South Coast resort of Bognor Regis.—United Press.

OLYMPIC PROSPECTS

FINNS THINK THEY WILL TRAIL U.S. AND SWEDEN

Helsinki.—Political tension in this part of the world has not dampened the Finns enthusiasm for the summer Olympic games.

In the Capital itself, and throughout the country, posters have gone up showing a strong Finnish athlete hurdling from Finland to England and urging Finns to support the team with contributions.

And the money is rolling in, according to Lasse Miettinen, once one of Finland's great sprinters and now Chairman of its Amateur Athletic Federation.

"The state has promised us 5,000,000 Finnish marks (US\$37,000). We need ten times that amount to cover expenses for both the winter and the summer games," he said in an interview.

"Contributions, occasionally a big one but usually just small ones from sport lovers, are coming everyday from all over the country.

We already have received 22,000,000 Finnish marks in voluntary contributions. Of that amount, the biggest donation of 500,000 came anonymously."

TEAM OF 150

Finland expects to send a team of 150 athletes to London. They will compete in virtually all events except basketball, soccer, field hockey, rowing and the modern pentathlon.

Finland's strongest showing will be in the track and field competition, Miettinen said. He predicted Finland had an excellent chance of finishing in third place behind the United States and Sweden in track and field.

The Finnish team will be built around farm boys and factory workers, members of approximately 1,000 amateur sport clubs scattered through both the cities and rural areas.

Because of Finland's harsh winter climate, athletes are unable to take to the track and field as early as competitors in other countries. The Finns train in winter by skiing and walking cross-country. This practice gives Finnish runners endurance and keeps their feet in shape, two of the essentials for distance running, Miettinen said. In addition, they take indoor gymnastic workouts twice weekly.

Eight training centres were set up throughout Finland where head coach Armas Valio, who competed in the Olympic Decathlon, watched the progress of his charges. Trainers, including Finland's great, Paavo Nurmi, helped give them advice throughout the winter.

"The war naturally affected our athletics," Miettinen said. "We lost many promising youngsters at the front. But now we have overcome that handicap. Bad and inadequate food cut down their stamina. Conditions have so improved, however, that we believe our athletes will be back at their pre-war peaks this summer."

"We will start outdoor training in the beginning of May. While we have some 150 boys who have made good already and are getting special coaching, our Olympic tryouts on July 8 and 9 may turn up many surprises."

The Finnish team will depart for London on July 24 by boat.

SOME PROSPECTS

Thumbing through the list of prospects, Miettinen singled out these men: Mikko Hietanen, a 34-year-old gun powder factory worker, on whom Finland is pinning its hopes

of winning the marathon run. He consistently runs the 42 kilometre course in two hours and thirty minutes. He was European champion in 1946 and last year finished second in the Boston marathon race. In the 10,000 metre run, where Finns regularly are best, Helge Persela, a 32-year-old worker, is getting considerable attention. He runs the distance consistently in 30 minutes 15 seconds. Only two other Finns, including the present world record holder Viljo Heino, have covered the distance under 30 minutes.

An all-round distance runner, Pentti Siitola, is being saved for the 3,000 metres steeplechase which he runs in the excellent time of nine minutes. Only two Swedes have bettered that time. Siitola is a 30-year-old textile worker from Tampere.

A 23-year-old farm boy, Erkki Kataja, is Europe's best pole vaulter. He vaults 4.24 metres as against the Americans 4.50 metres or better. Miettinen said he believed Kataja is the only European vaulter who will be able to oppose the Americans in this event.

Great hopes are held for a college boy miler, Denis Johansson, 20, who comes from Turku, Nurmi's hometown.

"He's as good a miler as any I know," Miettinen said. Johansson's best time for 1,500 metres is three minutes 52 seconds, but Miettinen said he can run the distance faster. Two Swedes beat him last year.

Tolve Ervastianen, a 22-year-old farm boy, looks like a gold medal winner to the Finns in the javelin throw. He tosses the spear 74.55 metres regularly. Finland has other good javelin throwers too.

Europe's 1946 champion in the hop, step and jump, Karl Rautio, will compete. Rautio is a radio technician in private life. His 15.46 metres compares with the world's elite in this event.

Another European champion in 1946, Bertil Storskrubb, in the 400 metres hurdles, rounds out the team's needs. A University student, Storskrubb runs the distance in 52.2 seconds.—Associated Press.

Women's Hockey

Amsterdam, May 14.—Results of Thursday's matches in the world championship women's hockey tournament were:

Quarter-finals

Netherlands beat Wales 3-1. Scotland beat the United States 3-1.

Consolation round

Spain drew with Denmark 0-0. Belgium beat Austria 2-0. The semi-finals are: England, Eire, the Netherlands and Scotland.—Associated Press.

AND ANOTHER



Hongkong's Miss Wong Yuen-ling who broke the 50 and 100 metres free style records at the Chinese National Games at Shanghai. Her new national record times are 35.9 and 80.6 seconds. She is the 15-year-old elder daughter of Dr S. To Wong.

FOOTBALL

England's Team Against Italy

Stresa, May 13.—England's team to meet Italy in the international soccer game at Turin on Sunday was announced today as follows:

Swift (Manchester), captain; Scott (Arsenal) and Howe (Derby County), Wright (Wolves), Franklin (Stoke) and Cockburn (Manchester United); Matthews (Blackpool), Mortensen (Blackpool); Lawton (Notts County), Mannion (Middlesbrough), and Finney (Preston North End).—Reuter.

BOXING

Britain's Hopes For Olympics

London, May 13.—With the Olympic Games drawing near, stock has been taken in most sports, and attempts made to forecast Britain's chances against the athletic cream of the world.

The forecast is not considered too bright, but there is a distinct chance that Great Britain will win maybe two Olympic boxing titles.

Without much prior knowledge of the potential strength of the Americans, the Amateur Boxing Association look with some confidence to Britain's team in which two featherweights, Peter Brander, of Slough, and Charlie Tucker, of the Royal Air Force, Stoker Ron Cooper, the Royal Navy lightweight, and the new heavyweight champion, Sergeant J. Gardner, of the Army, are singled out as boxers of outstanding ability.

At the other weights, Britain is not so well blessed. Even Max Shacklady, the Eccles, Lancashire, welterweight, who defeated the Navy champion, Johnny Ryans, does not display the class likely to carry him through to the Olympic final.—Reuter.

RUMANIAN CRACK

One of the best sprinters today over all distances from 100 metres to 400 metres is the Rumanian Olympic hope, Molna, who won the sprints in last year's Balkan Games.

His best times last year were 10.4 seconds for 100 metres, 21.4 seconds for 200 metres, 34.7 seconds for 300 metres and 47.0 seconds for 400 metres.

FOR YOUR SPARE MOMENTS

SIDE GLANCES

By Galbraith

EXCLUSIVE 'TELEGRAPH' FEATURE

YOUR BIRTHDAY..... By STELLA

FRIDAY, MAY 14

BORN today, you have exceptionally strong likes and dislikes. You know who and what you like, instantly, and you rarely change your opinion. You are quick-tempered and often break out in a rage when least expected. You are sorry immediately, but often the harm is done. Learn self-control in this regard.

You make friends easily, despite your natural selectivity, and you may have a throng of admirers who tag around at your heels, although you can never rightly understand why. You have a sharp sense of humour and your mind works with the speed of lightning. You have a talent for the dramatic and you women probably will be drawn toward the stage. You men, however, will use this gift in your work and make this room an dramatic and exciting as a stage play.

You have a fine mind, one that leans toward the sciences. You

probably will be interested in experimentation and it allowed to go your own way, unhindered, you may come up with some new discovery that will change the entire tenor of the world. You are able to direct others and would make a brilliant teacher and lecturer in some highly specialised field. You are able to make difficult things appear quite simple.

At home, you are warm-hearted, loving, generous and even can be the life of a party. You appear to separate your professional or business life entirely from your home life and can be almost two different individuals in the varying surroundings. You empty all that is beautiful and will want to have the best in music, art and literature around you at all times.

To find what the stars have in store for tomorrow, select your birthday star and read the corresponding paragraph. Let your birthday star be your daily guide.

SATURDAY, MAY 15

TAURUS (Apr. 21-May 21)—All artistic endeavours are highly favoured, as well as all projects in the entertainment field.

GEMINI (May 22-June 22)—Let intuition be your guide and you will not make an error in judgment when deciding something important.

CANCER (June 23-July 23)—If your job is in jeopardy, be especially careful today. With care you can avert any difficulty whatsoever.

LEO (July 24-Aug. 23)—There may be romance, travel and adventure in today's picture but postpone new business matters until later.

VIRGO (Aug. 24-Sept. 23)—A good day for a wedding. Be tactful in your social contacts so that you do not injure your friends.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)—If your profession is in the air, then you should be eminently successful in some previously planned project.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22)—Not a day to push your ambitions. Be conservative; avoid risks and fire hazards. With caution, you can make some progress.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 22)—If you are contemplating a sea voyage, this could be a good day for beginning it. Be careful when it comes to emotions.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23-Jan. 20)—There is apt to be romance in the air today, even if you don't realise it instantly. Enjoy yourself.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21-Feb. 19)—If planning a week-end trip, this is an excellent day to begin your journey. Relatives make you happy.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 21)—Sidelined dealing with important officials, but if you must, exert considerable caution and tact.

ARIES (Mar. 22-Apr. 20)—Don't overwork yourself today. A weekend of rest and relaxation will repay your far better than attempting too much now.

AROUND THE WORLD:

Jekyll Island, Off Georgia

By TEMPLE MANNING

PEOPLE who like to sample new places before they become too popular, make treks for Jekyll Island, off the coast of Georgia. This lovely playground, once the resort of just a few millionaires and mighty folk, but just a small group of super-rich, has been purchased by the State of Georgia for its people with a hearty welcome for all visitors.

For over sixty years, this gourd-shaped island, nine miles from Brunswick, has been the special preserve of a group of New York sportsmen, an isolated spot where there was superb hunting, fishing, and relaxation in a palatial clubhouse.

Wonderful Resort

State Park officials of Georgia have all sorts of plans to lure visitors and to keep them coming back, plans that should transform Jekyll into one of America's most wonderful resorts. Making use of the superb recreational facilities, all sorts of national athletic events will be staged. But we think that most people will be satisfied with the exquisite beauty of the place, with the pine groves, the walks arched over by moss-draped giant oaks, by the miles of smooth bathing beach on the Atlantic side, and by the two tiled-in outdoor pools on the Jekyll River.

There are glorious riding trails, and rustic walks that gleam with beauty. The huge polo field, one of the best in the United States, is being converted into a baseball diamond. There are two indoor courts, three outdoor courts with portable bleachers that can seat thousands. The golf course is a dream, a challenge to the golfer, and plans are afoot for both exhibition events and a giant open tournament.

OUTWARD MAILS

FRIDAY, MAY 14

Closing Times By Air

Shanghai, Nanking, Hankow, Tientsin, Peking, Amoy, Foochow and Swatow, 3.30 p.m.

Closing Times By Sea & Train

Amoy (Sea) 3 p.m.

Hongkong (Sea) 3 p.m.

Macao, Tientsin and Shekai (Sea) 4 p.m.

Straits, Ceylon, East & South Africa, Bombay, Aden, Egypt and Europe via London (Sea) 5 p.m. (par. reg. & ord.)

Canton (Parcels & 2nd class mail) (Sea) 5 p.m.

SATURDAY, MAY 15

Closing Times By Air

Canton, (Kowloon CPO) 7.30 a.m., 10 a.m., 12.30 p.m., 3 p.m. (GPO) 7 a.m., 9.30 a.m., Noon, 2.30 p.m.

Shanghai, 9 a.m. (reg); 9.30 a.m. (ord).

Macao, P.L. Honolulu, USA and Canada, 9.30 a.m. (reg); 10 a.m. (ord).

Bangkok, Rangoon, Calcutta, Karachi, Bahrain, Cairo (Nairobi), Johannesburg and Marsabits via Cairo, Augusta and London, (Kowloon CPO) 3 p.m. (GPO) 3.30 p.m.

Saigon and Paris, 3.30 p.m.

Shanghai, Nanking, Hankow, Tientsin, Peking, Swatow, Amoy, Chungking and Tientsin, 3.30 p.m.

Closing Times By Sea & Train

Macao, Tientsin and Shekai (Sea) 5 a.m.

Hohow, Peking via Hohow and Bangkok (Sea) 5 a.m.

Saigon and Sandakan (Sea) 5 a.m.

Manila, Honolulu, USA, Canada, Central and South America via San Francisco (No Parcels for Canada) (Sea) 1.30 p.m. (par. & reg); 2 p.m. (ord).

Shanghai (Sea) 3 p.m.

POCKET CARTOON

by OSBERT LANCASTER



BY THE WAY

by Beachcomber

IS nobody making a film of "War and Peace"? If made on a lavish scale, with a reconstruction of the Siege of Sebastopol, and special scenes shot in Northern Australia, it should not cost more than about \$324,000,000.

If it ran for eight years in America, it would earn as many dollars as the latest scheme for allowing American tourists in England an extra portion of bread pudding on alternate Tuesdays.

Unhappy ending

A FISHERMAN, says my paper, who caught a 25lb. pike the other day recognised it "as one he had marked and thrown back as being too small twenty years ago."

"You again!" said the delighted angler.

"You mean you again!" rejoined the unhappy fish, with a pout.

Supper for two

AN actress was supping with a man-about-town. When the waiter was about to remove an empty champagne bottle, she said softly, "Claude, may I have the bottle?" "What to keep?" asked her escort, thinking it a sentimental whim. "Yes, I'd like to take it home," "Hush!" said he, "you've really won't take it home." "Yes, my dad puts ships in them, for the sea-front." "Your — dad-what?" roared the disgusted man. "Have I said the wrong thing?" asked the poor little dolt, with a pretty pout. "No, no," replied her escort laughingly, fingering his collar. An awkward silence ensued.

Marginal note

ONE of the best things in John Winant's book, "A Letter from Grosvenor Square," is the story of the woman who was being attended to for a black eye and shock after a raid on Bath. They asked her the usual questions. Was she married? Yes. Where was her husband? "In Libya, the b-y coward!"

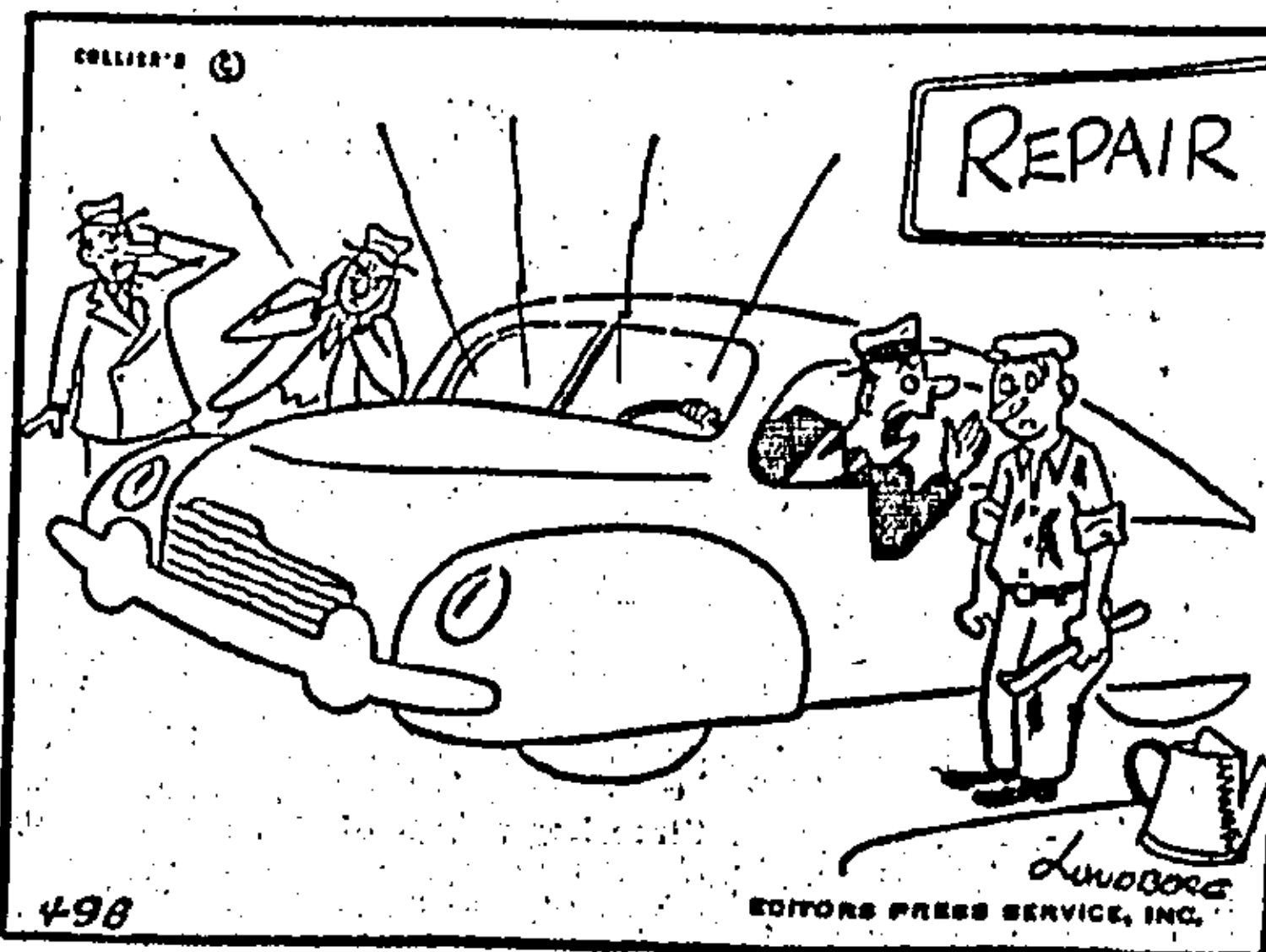
Tail-piece

.....And he said, "Is this what you call beer?" and the bloke behind the bar said, "I never mentioned beer. You asked me for beer, and I gave you what's in your glass. It's not what I'd call beer myself."

CHECK YOUR KNOWLEDGE

Answers

1. The Thames River.
2. Eleanor Roosevelt.
3. A piece of mangle iron.
4. The treaty in which Germany agreed not to invade Belgium.
5. Monte Carlo.
6. In Louisville, Kentucky. It is the race track on which the Kentucky Derby is run.



"I said—the horn is stuck!"

FOR THE BUSINESSMAN

British Govt. Issues Continue Strong

London, May 13.—On the London Stock Exchange today, British Government stocks were strong throughout the session, absorbing with ease any selling which emerged.

HONGKONG SHARES

Business done on the Hongkong Stock Exchange this morning totalled \$300,000. Transactions and noon prices follow:—

SHARES	BUYERS	SELLERS	SALES
GOVT. LOANS			
2½% (1948)			20,000 @ 101
5½% (1948)			25,000 @ 2100
5½% (1948)			60 @ 2025
5½% (1948)			
INSURANCES			
Union			140
DOCKERS, ETC.			
Dock	33	34	200 @ 33½
Provident	23½		600 @ 33½
LAND, ETC.			
HK Land	10	10½	
Shai Land	83		
UTILITIES			
Tram	24	24½	100 @ 24
C. Light (O)	23	23½	100 @ 23½
C. Light (N)	20½	20½	100 @ 20½
Telephone	49½	50½	300 @ 50
INDUSTRIALS			
Harbour	43½	43½	500 @ 43½
STONES, ETC.			
Walton	50		
Rm.	53½	50½	

Conversion Loan 8½ percent was the most popular, rising 7/16ths, while other issues rose 1/4th and 3/16ths.

Industrial shares were decidedly mixed, but Road Transports were strong as a group, while tobacco shares were also better.

With the exception of Brazilian issues, which improved, foreign bonds were dull.

Kaffirs, oils and rubbers were lifeless.—United Press.

WALL STREET GAINS

New York, May 13.—Prices continued forward today with gains ranging from fractions to more than a point in some specialties. Trading was active. The session was the fourth most active of the year, and transactions totalled 2,030,000 shares. As measured by the general market average, the rise carried prices to the best level since August 30, 1946, while the Industrial average moving up to the best level since October 21, 1947.

Otherwise there was nothing in the news to influence traders. According to market experts the rise was merely technical.

Railroad issues again advanced, steel was steady, and automobiles firmed.

Of 1,072 issues traded, 603 were higher, 266 lower, and 203 unchanged.—United Press.

N.Y. FOREIGN EXCHANGE

New York, May 13.—Today's foreign exchange closing rates were:—

Argentina (Peso Unofficial)	US\$0.2077
Australia	3.23
Belgium	22.31½
Canada	33-3/16
Chile	4.03½
France	4.03½
India	30.33
Mexico	30.33
New Zealand	2.23½
Peru	3.23½
Portugal	4.03½
South Africa	4.03½
Sweden	4.03½
Switzerland	2.40
Uruguay	2.40
Venezuela	2.40
Shanghai (CNCF100,000)	30.19
Netherlands	37.82
Batavia	37.82
Singapore	47.53
Hongkong	24.03

NEW YORK SILVER

New York, May 13.

Silver, per fine ounce, as quoted by the market:

Silver, Spot, per ounce, 45d

Silver, Forward, per ounce, 45d

LONDON SILVER

London, May 13.

Silver, Spot, per ounce, 45d

Silver, Forward, per ounce, 45d

—United Press.

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McKENNEY ON BRIDGE

Doubling A Slam Helps The Bidder

By WILLIAM E. MCKENNEY

TODAY'S hand embodies one very important point, the fallacy of doubling slam contracts, especially grand slam bids. If the declarer has to locate certain high cards a double gives him the key.

South's bid of four hearts was not an overbid. North's bid of four spades was surely a cue-bid showing the ace of spades. If he had a spade suit he would have shown it on the first or second round of bidding. North and South were not using Blackwood, and when South bid four no trump he was showing a desire to play the hand at no trump.

In my opinion North's bid of six no trump was too optimistic and South's seven no trump bid might also be classed as optimistic.

Now we come to West's double. West should have known from the bidding that there could be no other missing high cards except those he

♠ 32			
♥ A87			
♦ A106			
♣ AKQJ8			
Tournament—N-S vul.			
South	West	North	East
1 ♣	Pass	1 ♥	Pass
2 ♣	Pass	3 ♥	Pass
4 ♥	Pass	4 ♣	Pass
4 N.T.	Pass	6 N.T.	Pass
7 N.T.	Double	Pass	Pass
Opening—♣ K			
			20

STRANGE SOVIET VIOLATION OF DIPLOMATIC SECRET

Opposes Anti-Red Bill

Washington, May 13.—President Truman today announced his flat opposition to a bill now before Congress which would impose drastic restrictions on Communism in the United States.

Such a law, if passed, would be "entirely contrary to our principles," he said. President Truman said that if any organization or group of people in the United States were aiming at overthrowing the Government, there were laws on the Statute books to deal with it.—Reuter.

Australia Must Produce More Food

Canberra, May 14.—Australia would have to answer some very serious questions in the not far distant future unless she made material food contribution to the East, said the Director General of Agriculture, Mr. F. W. Bulcock, addressing the Australian Institute of Agricultural Science.

Mr. Bulcock said that, while maintaining her white Australia policy, Australia must remain on the very best terms with her Eastern neighbours. As only food could promote friendship, one question alone emerged—to what degree could Australia contribute to the requirements of the Eastern peoples?

THE EAST AWAKENS

The East was awakening to the problems of nutrition and its governments were determined to overcome food shortages. They would make great demands on countries that could produce as a *quid pro quo* for the maintenance of some of the policies adopted in Australia.

Because world population is increasing by 20,000,000 annually, only one had season in a major producing country was needed to plunge the world into starvation. Mr. Bulcock predicted a major food crisis in most countries by 1951 if the rate of production increased only at the postwar rate.—Associated Press.

New Composition Of Ministries

Nanking, May 14.—The National Government has promulgated a revised organic law of the Executive Yuan, providing for 15 ministries and three commissions under its direct jurisdiction.

The Ministry of Economic Affairs is changed to the Ministry of Industry and Commerce, while the Department of Audit is enlarged into a separate ministry.

The new organisation includes the Ministries of Interior, Foreign Affairs, National Defence, Finance, Education, Justice, Agriculture and Forestry, Water Conservancy, Industry and Commerce, Communications, Social Affairs, Land Administration, Health, Food and Audit.—Reuter.

URGES MILITARY TRAINING

Karachi, May 13.—Liaquat Ali Khan, Pakistan Premier and Defence Minister, told the Pakistan Parliament today that it was his desire that 2,000,000 Pakistan civilians should be given military training as quickly as possible. He disclosed that the Pakistan National Guard had 40 infantry battalions and in the next three months would have a 100 battalions.—Reuter.

Paris Ready To Give Royal Couple A Royal Welcome

Paris, May 13.—Paris today put out flags and bunting to welcome Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh, who will arrive tomorrow for their five-day visit.

The Princess and the Duke are travelling through the night by sleeper ferry and will reach Paris early in the morning.

Their first engagement is to call on M. Vincent Auriol, President of the Republic, after which they will lay a wreath on the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. In the afternoon, Princess Elizabeth is opening the exhibition "Eight Centuries of British Life in France" at the Musée Galliera. She will speak in French and her speech will be broadcast.

In the evening, she and the Duke will dine with the President. The French National Assembly today passed a 9,000,000-franc vote of credit for the official entertainment of the Royal couple. The capital is determined to live up to its reputation of a gay city.

London, May 13.—The motives which prompted Moscow to blaze the details of the talks between General Walter Bedell Smith, the United States Ambassador in Moscow, and the Soviet Foreign Minister, M. Vyacheslav Molotov, remain a mystery. The disclosure of the actual facts of the incident has only heightened it. Observers here, following the United States official denials, that specific talks between Russia and the United States were ever contemplated, suggest three possible Soviet motives.

1.—To give a wedge of distrust between the countries of Western Europe and the United States with the object of halting progress in the Marshall Plan and drawing off United States support for the Western Union.

2.—To confuse public opinion in the United States at a moment when Congress is due to debate military appropriations and when military backing for Western Union defence is under discussion.

3.—To provide Communist propaganda throughout the world with a sensational Soviet gesture of reconciliation to be played up as proof that the Western powers, and not Russia, are responsible for the existing tension.

It is also suggested that Moscow may be genuinely anxious to bring about a relaxation of the tension in Berlin and Vienna for political reasons.

SIGNIFICANT TIMING

The timing of the Soviet publication of the full text of M. Molotov's aide memoire to General Bedell Smith, and the partial text of General Bedell Smith's to M. Molotov, is seen here as significant.

The Moscow Radio broadcast was made at an hour of the night when all immediate official reaction, either in Washington or in Europe, was likely until the next morning, and it came shortly after the American Ambassador had left Russia for his fishing holiday in France.

This suggests that the Russians may have deliberately waited until the Ambassador was absent and unable to give an instantaneous United States explanation of the publication.

This, in turn, observers consider supports the theory that the foremost object of the Soviet move was to gain maximum currency for the impression that a major Soviet peace feeler in the "cold war" had been put out from Moscow before any United States correction of the Soviet version appeared.

In this, Moscow appears to have been successful, and officials in several European capitals agreed today that the legend that the Soviet Union had extended the olive branch to the United States will die hard in many sections of public opinion influenced by newspapers which proclaimed the Moscow broadcast with relief.—Reuter.

Sterling Area Pact With Japan

Canberra, May 13.—Japan is to enter into an agreement with the sterling area under which goods worth £60 million will be exchanged. An Australian Government official said here today that the agreement would be considered at a special conference at Tokyo, and was likely to be completed by the end of July.

An Australian interim agreement with Japan, announced on February 22, would be merged with the comprehensive agreement.

The principal Japanese exports would be raw silk, cotton, textiles, paper products, coal, plywood, pottery, ceramics, toys and light electrical goods.

Imports would be machinery from Britain, wool from Australia, New Zealand and South Africa, rubber and tin from Malaya, salt and cotton from India and Egypt, hides from New Zealand, and rice and other foodstuffs from Burma.

The agreement is not expected to bring the sterling area any dollar gain, but is felt to be likely to permit the reduction of dollar payments elsewhere.—Reuter.

Self-Help Progress In Europe

London, May 13.—Mr. W. Averell Harriman, "roving Ambassador" for the European Recovery Programme, said today that the Western countries already had made great progress toward self-help.

Mr. Harriman addressed a press conference during a brief visit to London en route back to Washington from Paris. He later conferred with Mr. Bevin at the Foreign Office and dined with Sir Stafford Cripps and the American Ambassador, Mr. Lewis Douglas.

He will take off for Washington tomorrow. "I leave with a great deal of confidence in the ability of the 16-nation organisation for European economic co-operation to deal with problems under the programme," said Mr. Harriman.

He said he had not participated in and was not aware of any conferences on possible devaluation of European currencies. "I certainly did not come over here for that purpose," he said. "The question will not be involved in any bilateral pacts under the European Recovery Programme."

NO DUMPING

He also refuted suggestions that the programme might serve as a means of dumping U.S. surpluses. "Such reports have no foundation whatever," the United States has only a few surpluses and these will be used only if any of it can be further the purposes of the programme.

He also refuted Communist reports of American political intervention in Europe. "The Marshall Plan is an economic plan to assist the European countries and beyond that it has no political implications. Statements from Moscow (an American aid) bear no relation to facts."

Mr. Harriman said he had talked in London on the Western nations' contribution to recovery. He was optimistic that Western Europe would be able to stand on its own feet at the end of the four-year programme. He was also personally confident that Congress would appropriate funds for the remaining three years, provided progress was made during the first 12 months.—United Press.

The Man Who Serves Great Causes

London, May 13.—Mr. Winston Churchill, responding to a tremendous welcome from crowds outside Oslo's Town Hall today, said he had "tried faithfully to serve great causes." Oslo Radio reported.

A crowd from the Town Hall balcony, Mr. Churchill declared: "In our country, we are a strong democracy. The monarch is the servant of the people. We are a country and you are a country where the people own the Government and not the Government owns the people."

"There is a great division in the human mind and in modern controversies upon this point, but I am certain the people of this hardy North will ever uphold the principles of human freedom, the rights to free thought, to free speech, to the faithful accomplishment of the people's will."

"Why should the toiling masses of the world always be harassed, haunted by one kind of oppression after another?"

"Why should they be herded in masses and hurled against another lot of people just as good and well meaning as they are themselves if they only talk it over?"

"The principle of the will by the people fairly and freely expressed shall prevail and be corrected as may be by the march of events."—Reuter.

PRIVILEGE FOR GERMANS

London, May 13.—Germans are now to be allowed to pay visits of up to six months to friends and relatives in Britain too see the British way of life, it was announced in Parliament today.

Children will be allowed to stay indefinitely.—Reuter.



Francis Cardinal Spellman of New York, who will be visiting Hongkong in the near future, snapped at San Francisco before he left by air for Australia to attend the centenary celebration of the Roman Catholic Church in Victoria. With him in the picture are the San Francisco Chief of Police and Fire Chief.—AP.

Commission's Statement Upsets Koreans

Seoul, May 13.—Heavier guards were posted today on two Seoul hotels where members and staff of the United Nations Korean Commission are staying. All visitors were subject to identity checks and a larger number of American military police than usual patrolled the vicinity of the hotels.

BOMB MADE OF SODIUM CYANIDE

London, May 13.—Experts of the Home Office who examined the bomb sent to General Sir Evelyn Barker on Tuesday reported today that it contained sodium cyanide, a deadly poison.

Scotland Yard has issued a warning that anyone who received suspicious looking parcels should not, on any account, put it in a pot of water, for that might make the bomb go off at once. Recent bombs were electrically fired and it was reasonable to assume that they passed through the post without being damaged.

The bomb sent to General Barker, posted in W.I., was wrapped in two copies of an American magazine dated September and October last year.

The police are checking 300 post offices to discover where the Farran bomb was posted.

A parcel from Palestine, marked "Easter Sweets," and sent to Mr. St. John Brown, the head postmaster at Bristol, is being subjected to tests as it is believed to contain metal.

Mr. Brown, who took up his duties at Bristol last month, said the parcel bore a Middle-East Land Forces' postmark. The date stamp was not clear enough to distinguish when it was actually posted. The declaration bore the words "Easter Sweets" and was signed with an uncommon English name, Mr. Brown said.

Mr. Brown added: "The parcel might be genuine, but I do not want to take any chances. I do not know of anyone who would want to kill me."

A police official at Bristol said: "We think that similar parcels will be received by all sorts of people in Britain in the next few weeks."

"We regard the whole thing as a bit of a scare."—Reuter.

Malik Off To UN Meeting

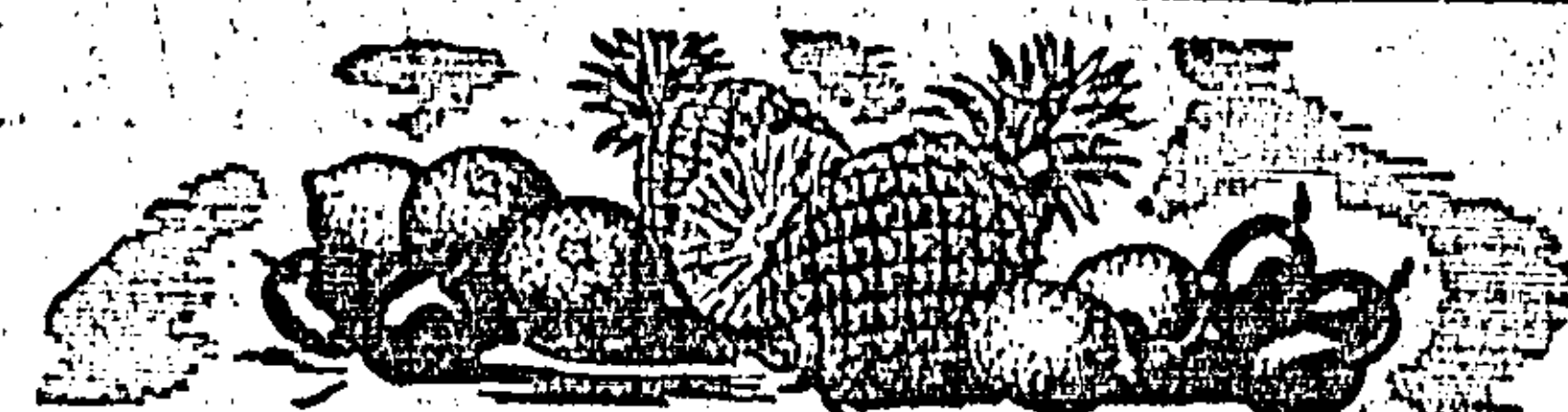
London, May 13.—The Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister, M. Jacob Malik, one of Moscow's leading Far Eastern experts, left Berlin by air today for London on his way to New York to attend a United Nations meeting, a British official spokesman in Berlin said tonight.

He was accompanied by an official of the Soviet Foreign Ministry.

His sudden flight has caused considerable speculation in London. M. Malik, a former Soviet Ambassador to Tokyo, is reported to be bound for the United States and it was suggested, Reuter's diplomatic correspondent writes, that he was making an urgent mission to Washington over the Korean problem, mentioned by Mr. George Marshall, the American Secretary of State, as one of the three key points of Soviet-American friction.

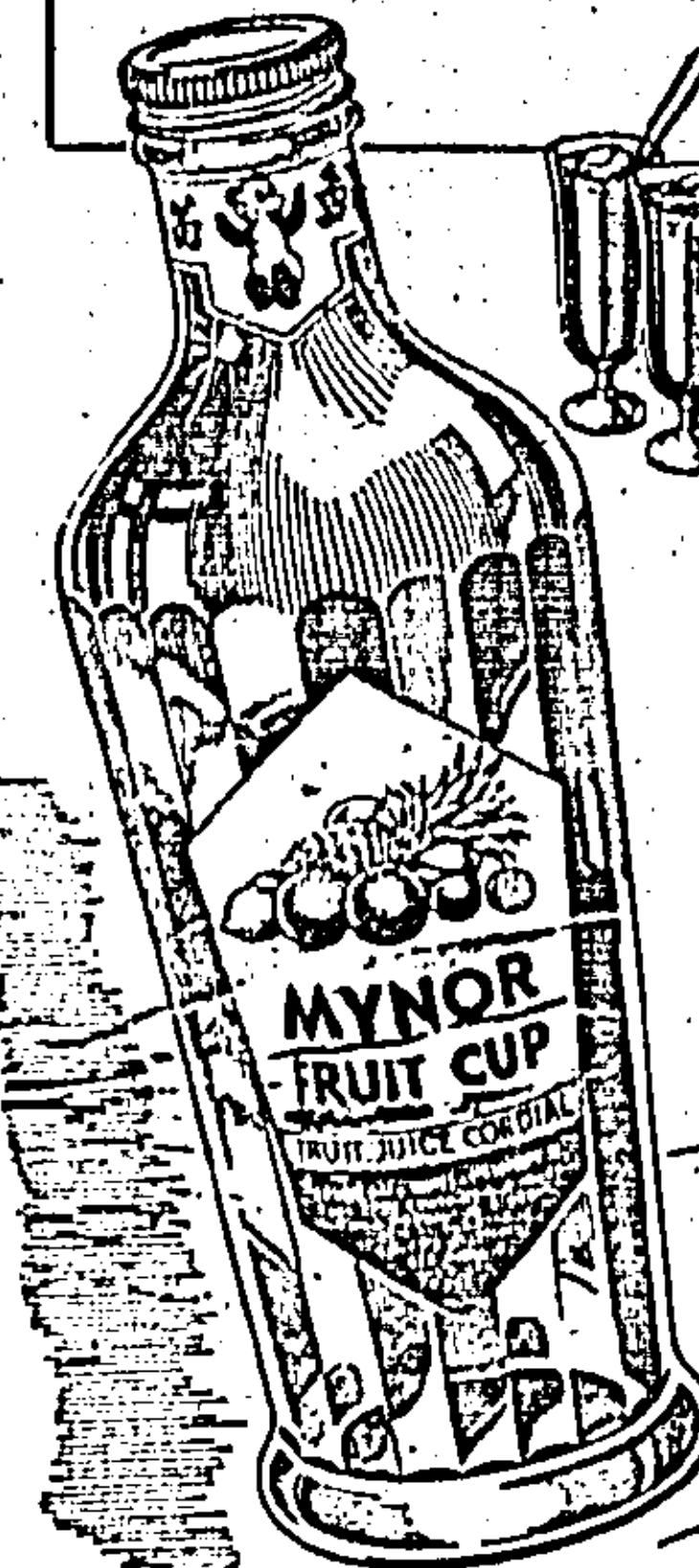
The others are Berlin and Vienna. British experts who have met him consider M. Malik as one of the ablest, younger Soviet officials.—Reuter.

Coming To Hongkong



MYNOR FRUIT CUP

Australia's leading Fruit Juice



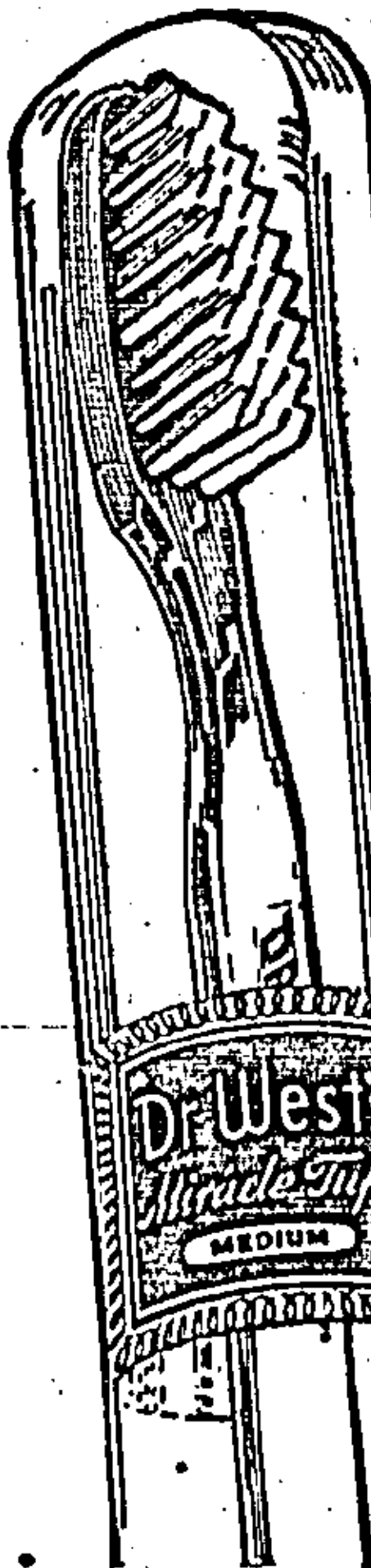
Now you can enjoy this famous Australian fruit drink! Mynor Fruit Cup is made from sun-ripened oranges, lemons, pineapples and passionfruit and retains valuable vitamins for health and energy. Grown-ups and children both enjoy delicious easy-to-make Mynor drinks... and, remember, one bottle makes a gallon.

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URGENT NOTICES RECEIVED UNTIL NOON ON DAY OF ISSUE

Funds For Defence

Washington, May 13.—President Truman today asked Congress for an additional \$2,434,441,000 for defence.—Reuter.

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